WORDS
OF
LINCOLN

1809 LINCOLN CENTENNIAL SOUVENIR 1909.
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
THE MARTYRED PRESIDENT.
One Hundredth Anniversary of his Birth at Elizabethtown, Ky.
February 12th 1809.
First Inaugurated President, March 4th 1861. Again March 4th 1865.
Assassinated in Fords Theatre Washington, during the celebration of the close of the
Civil War, April 14th 1865.
"With malice toward none, with charity for all"
Inaugural Address.
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Photo, 1864, *Brady, Washington.*

A. LINCOLN.

WORDS OF LINCOLN

Including Several Hundred Opinions of his Life and Character by Eminent Persons of this and other Lands

COMPILED BY

OSBORN H. OLDROYD

AUTHOR "LINCOLN MEMORIAL ALBUM," "A SOLDIER'S STORY OF THE SIEGE OF VICKSBURG"

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

MELVILLE W. FULLER

Chief Justice of the United States

AND

TEUNIS S. HAMLIN

Pastor Church of the Covenant, Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

O. H. OLDROYD

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1895.
O. H. OLDROYD.

THESE WORDS OF LINCOLN

ARE DEDICATED TO THE

AMERICAN PEOPLE,

FROM WHOSE HUMBLEST RANKS HE ROSE,

AND WHOSE INTERESTS

HE SO FAITHFULLY GUARDED THROUGH A GREAT

CIVIL CONVULSION.

"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY FOR ALL."

ILLUSTRATIONS.

PORTRAIT OF A. LINCOLN,	*Frontispiece*	
" "	*Facing Page*	8
" "	"	29
" "	"	46
LINCOLN HOMESTEAD, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.,	"	51
WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON, D. C.,	"	68
CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, D. C.,	"	68
PORTRAITS: LINCOLN, NICOLAY, AND HAY—GROUP,	"	84
FORD'S THEATER, WASHINGTON, D. C.,	"	95
CHAIR IN WHICH THE PRESIDENT WAS SHOT,	"	136
HOUSE IN WHICH LINCOLN DIED, WASHINGTON, D. C.,	"	181
LINCOLN MONUMENT, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.,	"	182

The chair in which the President was shot, also the photographs from which the illustrations were made, are contained in the "Oldroyd Lincoln Memorial Collection."

PREFACE.

THE sun which rose on the 12th of February, 1809, lighted up a little log cabin on Nolin Creek, Hardin Co., Ky., in which Abraham Lincoln was that day ushered into the world. Although born under the humblest and most unpromising circumstances, he was of honest parentage. In this backwoods hut, surrounded by virgin forests, Abraham's first four years were spent. His parents then moved to a point about six miles from Hodgensville, where he lived until he was seven years of age, when the family again moved, this time to Spencer Co., Ind.

The father first visited the new settlement alone, taking with him his carpenter tools, a few farming implements, and ten barrels of whisky (the latter being the payment received for his little farm) on a flatboat down Salt Creek to the Ohio River. Crossing the river, he left his cargo in care of a friend, and then returned for his family. Packing the bedding and cooking utensils on two horses, the family of four started for their new home. They wended their way through the Kentucky forests to those of Indiana, the mother and daughter (Sarah) taking their turn in riding.

Fourteen years were spent in the Indiana home. It was from this place that Abraham, in company

with young Gentry, made a trip to New Orleans on a flatboat loaded with country produce. During these years Abraham had less than twelve months of schooling, but acquired a large experience in the rough work of pioneer life. In the autumn of 1818 the mother died, and Abraham experienced the first great sorrow of his life. Mrs. Lincoln had possessed a very limited education, but was noted for intellectual force of character.

The year following the death of Abraham's mother his father returned to Kentucky, and brought a new guardian to the two motherless children. Mrs. Sally Johnson, as Mrs. Lincoln, brought into the family three children of her own, a goodly amount of household furniture, and, what proved a blessing above all others, a kind heart. It was not intended that this should be a permanent home; accordingly, in March, 1830, they packed their effects in wagons, drawn by oxen, bade adieu to their old home, and took up a two weeks' march over untraveled roads, across mountains, swamps, and through dense forests, until they reached a spot on the Sangamon River, ten miles from Decatur, Ill., where they built another primitive home. Abraham had now arrived at manhood, and felt at liberty to go out into the world and battle for himself. He did not leave, however, until he saw his parents comfortably fixed in their new home, which he helped build; he also split enough rails to surround the house and ten acres of ground.

In the fall and winter of 1830, memorable to the early settlers of Illinois as the year of the deep snow, Abraham worked for the farmers who lived

in the neighborhood. He made the acquaintance of a man of the name of Offut, who hired him, together with his stepbrother, John D. Johnson, and his uncle, John Hanks, to take a flatboat loaded with country produce down the Sangamon River to Beardstown, thence down the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers to New Orleans. Abraham and his companions assisted in building the boat, which was finally launched and loaded in the spring of 1831, and their trip successfully made. In going over the dam at Ruttledge Mill, New Salem, Ill., the boat struck and remained stationary, and a day passed before it was again started on its voyage. During this delay Lincoln made the acquaintance of New Salem and its people.

On his return from New Orleans, after visiting his parents,—who had made another move, to Goose-Nest Prairie, Ill.,—he settled in the little village of New Salem, then in Sangamon, now Menard, County. While living in this place, Mr. Lincoln served in the Black Hawk War, in 1832, as captain and private. His employment in the village was varied; he was at times a clerk, county surveyor, postmaster, and partner in the grocery business under the firm name of Lincoln & Berry. He was defeated for the Illinois Legislature in 1832 by Peter Cartwright, the Methodist pioneer preacher. He was elected to the Legislature in 1834, and for three successive terms thereafter.

Mr. Lincoln wielded a great influence among the people of New Salem. They respected him for his uprightness and admired him for his genial and social qualities. He had an earnest sympathy for

the unfortunate and those in sorrow. All confided in him, honored and loved him. He had an unfailing fund of anecdote, was a sharp, witty talker, and possessed an accommodating spirit, which led him to exert himself for the entertainment of his friends. During the political canvass of 1834, Mr. Lincoln made the acquaintance of Mr. John T. Stuart of Springfield, Ill. Mr. Stuart saw in the young man that which, if properly developed, could not fail to confer distinction on him. He therefore loaned Lincoln such law books as he needed, the latter often walking from New Salem to Springfield, a distance of twenty miles, to obtain them. It was very fortunate for Mr. Lincoln that he finally became associated with Mr. Stuart in the practice of law. He moved from New Salem to Springfield, and was admitted to the bar in 1837.

On the 4th of November, 1842, Mr. Lincoln married Miss Mary Todd of Lexington, Ky., at the residence of Ninian W. Edwards of Springfield, Ill. The fruits of this marriage were four sons: Robert T., born August 1, 1843; Edward Baker, March 10, 1846, died February 1, 1850; William Wallace, December 21, 1850, died at the White House, Washington, February 20, 1862; Thomas, ("Tad"), April 4, 1853, died at the Clifton House, Chicago, Ill., July 15, 1871. Mrs. Lincoln died at the house of her sister, Springfield, July 16, 1882.

In 1846 Mr. Lincoln was elected to Congress, as a Whig, his opponent being Peter Cartwright, who had defeated Mr. Lincoln for the Legislature in 1832.

The most remarkable political canvass witnessed in the country took place between Mr. Lincoln

and Stephen A. Douglas in 1858. They were candidates of their respective parties for the United States Senate. Seven joint debates took place in different parts of the State. The Legislature being of Mr. Douglas' political faith, he was elected.

In 1860 Mr. Lincoln came before the country as the chosen candidate of the Republican party for the Presidency. The campaign was a memorable one, characterized by a novel organization called "Wide Awakes," which had its origin in Hartford, Conn. There were rail fence songs, rail-splitting on wagons in processions, and the building of fences by the torch-light marching clubs.

The triumphant election of Mr. Lincoln took place in November, 1860. On the 11th of February, 1861, he bade farewell to his neighbors, and as the train slowly left the depot his sad face was forever lost to the friends who gathered that morning to bid him God speed. The people along the route flocked at the stations to see him and hear his words. At all points he was greeted as the President of the people, and such he proved to be. Mr. Lincoln reached Washington on the morning of the 23d of February, and on the 4th of March was inaugurated President. Through four years of terrible war his guiding star was justice and mercy. He was sometimes censured by officers of the army for granting pardons to deserters and others, but he could not resist an appeal for the life of a soldier. He was the friend of the soldiers, and felt and acted toward them like a father. Even workingmen could write him letters of encouragement and receive appreciative words in reply.

When the immortal Proclamation of Emancipation was issued, the whole world applauded, and slavery received its death-blow. The terrible strain of anxiety and responsibility borne by Mr. Lincoln during the war had worn him away to a marked degree, but that God who was with him throughout the struggle permitted him to live, and by his masterly efforts and unceasing vigilance pilot the ship of state back into the haven of peace.

On the 14th of April, 1865, after a day of unusual cheerfulness in those troublous times, and seeking relaxation from his cares, the President, accompanied by his wife and a few intimate friends, went to Ford's Theater, on Tenth Street, N. W. There the foul assassin, J. Wilkes Booth, awaited his coming, and at twenty minutes past ten o'clock, just as the third act of "Our American Cousin" was about to commence, fired the shot that took the life of Abraham Lincoln. The bleeding President was carried to a house across the street, No. 516, where he died at twenty-two minutes past seven the next morning. The body was taken to the White House and, after lying in state in the East Room and at the Capitol, left Washington on the 21st of April, stopping at various places en route, and finally arriving at Springfield on the 3d of May. On the following day the funeral ceremonies took place at Oak Ridge Cemetery, and there the remains of the martyr were left at rest.

Abraham Lincoln needs no marble shaft to perpetuate his name; his *words* are the most enduring monument, and will forever live in the hearts of the people.

I was but a boy in the political campaign of 1860, but had read a campaign life of "Abe" Lincoln, and became charmed with his remarkable, yet simple, life, and the possibilities of an American boy rising from such an humble birth to the candidacy for the Presidency of the United States. I took an active part in that campaign, and collected everything I could pertaining to Lincoln, little dreaming that the small beginning would amount to much. But when the assassin's bullet took the President's life, I determined then to spare no efforts to extend the collection. I returned from the army in 1865, having served from 1861, and from that time to the present day have accumulated nearly three thousand Lincolnian relics.

I lived ten years with the collection in the Lincoln Homestead, Springfield, Ill., until it became necessary to remove it from that historic house in 1893, when the Memorial Association of the District of Columbia induced me to place it in the house in which the President died, that the two might be preserved together as a Lincoln Memorial.

The building is rented from a private party, and the expense of keeping the house and collection open to the public is too great for one individual, or a small association, to bear. Hence my object in offering the "Words of Lincoln" to the American people is to give them an opportunity of preserving the historic place in which the martyred President's mortal career was closed.

OSBORN H. OLDROYD.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 1895.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Memorial Association of the District of Columbia has been organized for the threefold purpose:

1. Of preserving the most noteworthy houses at the Capital that had been made historic by the residence of the nation's greatest men.

2. Of suitably marking, by tablets or otherwise, the houses and places throughout the city of chief interest to our own residents and to the multitudes of Americans and foreigners that annually visit the Capital.

3. Of thus cultivating that historic spirit and that reverence for the memories of the founders and leaders of the Republic upon which an intelligent and abiding patriotism so largely depends.

It has first directed its efforts toward preserving the house, 516 Tenth Street, N. W., in which President Lincoln died. It leased the house to save it from demolition, placed in it the unique and valuable collection of relics gathered and owned by Captain O. H. Oldroyd, and has for nearly two years held the property as a museum. It is hoped and expected that Congress will purchase the house and preserve it in perpetuity. Meanwhile the association and its friends have contributed largely to

pay current expenses. Now Captain Oldroyd very generously puts this volume at the service of this patriotic enterprise. It contains the choicest utterances of Mr. Lincoln, so arranged and identified by time and place as to be most convenient for reference. We think it should find a wide welcome among the American people, to whom the memory of this great man is so precious.

MELVILLE W. FULLER,
President.
TEUNIS S. HAMLIN,
Vice President.

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
April 25, 1895.

VALUE OF WORDS.

"It is with words as with sunbeams—the more they are condensed, the deeper they burn."—*Southey.*

"Learn the value of a man's words and expressions, and you know him. Each man has a measure of his own for everything. This he offers you, inadvertently, in his words."—*Lavator.*

"Cast forth thy act, thy word, into the ever-living, ever-working universe; it is a reed-grain that cannot die; unnoticed to-day, it will be found flourishing as a banyan grove, perhaps, alas, as a hemlock forest, after a thousand years."—*Carlyle.*

WORDS OF LINCOLN.

"I AM HUMBLE ABRAHAM LINCOLN."

(First political speech, delivered at Poppsville, Sangamon Co., Ill., in 1832.)

"Gentlemen and fellow-citizens: I presume you all know who I am. I am humble Abraham
1832 Lincoln. I have been solicited by my many friends to become a candidate for the Legislature. My politics are short and sweet. I am in favor of a national bank. I am in favor of the internal improvement system and a high protective tariff. These are my sentiments and political principles. If elected, I shall be thankful; if not, it will be all the same."

EDUCATION THE MOST IMPORTANT SUBJECT TO THE PEOPLE.

(Address at New Salem, Ill., March 9, 1832, when a candidate for the Legislature.)

"Upon the subject of education, not presuming to dictate any plan or system respecting it, I can
1832 only say that I view it as the most important subject which we, as a people, can be engaged in.

"That every man may receive at least a moderate education, and thereby be enabled to read the histories of his own and other countries, by which he may duly appreciate the value of our free institutions, appears to be an object of vital importance; even on this account alone, to say nothing of the advantages and satisfaction to be derived from all being able to read the Scriptures and other works, both of a religious and moral nature, for themselves.

"For my part, I desire to see the time when education, by its means, morality, sobriety, enterprise, and integrity, shall become much more general than at present, and should be gratified to have it in my power to contribute something to the advancement of any measure which might have a tendency to accelerate the happy period. 1832

"Every man is said to have his peculiar ambition. Whether it be true or not, I can say, for one, that I have no other so great as that of being truly esteemed of my fellow-men. How far I shall succeed in gratifying this ambition is yet to be developed. I am young, and unknown to many of you. I was born, and have ever remained, in the most humble walks of life. I have no wealthy popular relations or friends to recommend me. My case is thrown exclusively upon the independent voters of the county; and, if elected, they will have conferred a favor

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On the day when the flag of thy love was to be again raised on Fort Sumter, where it had first been lowered, thou wast slain. Not for a life unfinished do we mourn, though thou wast now girding thyself for the greater victories of peace. God saw the end. We did not.—*Henry E. Butler.*

upon me, for which I shall be unremitting in my labors to compensate.

"But, if the good people in their wisdom shall see fit to keep me in the background, I have been too familiar with disappointment to be very much chagrined."

1832

ANNOUNCES HIMSELF A CANDIDATE FOR THE LEGISLATURE.

(*Letter to the Sangamon Journal, Springfield, Ill., June 13, 1836.*)

"I go for all sharing the privileges of the government who assist in bearing its burdens, consequently I go for admitting all whites to the right of suffrage who pay taxes or bear arms (by no means excluding females).

1836

"While acting as their representative I shall be governed by their will on all subjects upon which I have the means of knowing what their will is, and upon all others I shall do what my own judgment teaches me will best advance their interests, whether elected or not.

"I go for distributing the proceeds of the sale of public lands to the several States, to enable our State, in common with others, to dig canals and

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When Abraham Lincoln issued the Proclamation of Freedom the light of morning rose, higher and higher went the sun, more and more the heavens were opened above us, and the Lord lifted up our Fourth of July into higher and yet higher glory, by giving us Gettysburg and Vicksburg at one blast of the trumpet.—*William de Loss Love.*

construct railroads without borrowing money and paying interest on it."

PROTEST AGAINST DOMESTIC SLAVERY.

(*In the Illinois Legislature, March 3, 1837, in opposition to a resolution on the subject.*)

"They believe that the institution of slavery is founded on both injustice and bad policy; but that
1837 the promulgation of abolition doctrines tends rather to increase than abate its evils.

"They believe that the Congress of the United States has no power, under the Constitution, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the different States.

"They believe that the Congress of the United States has the power, under the Constitution, to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, but that the power ought not to be exercised, unless at the request of the people of the District.

"The difference between their opinions and those contained in the said resolutions is their reasons for entering this protest.

[Signed]

"DAN STONE,
"A. LINCOLN.

"Representatives from Sangamon Co., Ill."

He fell as his thousands had fallen on the field of battle—suddenly, and in the hour of victory. A man from among the people, a man who would have wept for the poorest drummer-boy of his great army!—*T. H. Robinson.*

"PERPETUATION OF OUR FREE INSTITUTIONS."

(*An address delivered at the age of twenty-eight, Springfield, Ill., January, 1837.*)

"In the great journal of things happening under the sun, we, the American people, find our account running under date of the nineteenth century of the Christian era. 1857

"We find ourselves in the peaceful possession of the fairest portion of the earth, as regards extent of territory, fertility of soil, and salubrity of climate.

"We find ourselves under the government of a system of political institutions conducing more essentially to the ends of civil and religious liberty than any of which the history of former times tells us.

"We, when mounting the stage of our existence, found ourselves the legal inheritors of these fundamental blessings.

"We toiled, not in the acquisition or establishment of them: they are a legacy bequeathed us by a once hardy, brave, and patriotic, but now lamented and departed race of ancestors.

"Theirs was the task (and nobly they performed it) to possess themselves, and, through themselves, us, of this goodly land, and to uprear upon its hills and valleys a political edifice of liberty and equal

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Coming generations will discover that what he called hesitation was wise discretion; that amid our home and foreign complications any other policy would have led to inevitable ruin.—*Adoniram J. Patterson.*

rights; 'tis ours only to transmit these—the former unprofaned by the foot of an invader; the latter undecoyed by the lapse of time and untorn by usurpation, to the latest generation that fate shall permit the world to know.

"This task, gratitude to our fathers, justice to ourselves, duty to posterity—all imperatively
1837 require us faithfully to perform.

"How, then, shall we perform it? At what point shall we expect the approach of danger? Shall we expect some transatlantic military giant to step the ocean and crush us at a blow?

"Never! All the armies of Europe, Asia, and Africa combined, with all the treasure of the earth (our own excepted) in their military chest, with a Bonaparte for a commander, could not, by force, take a drink from the Ohio, or make a track on the Blue Ridge, in a trial of a thousand years.

"At what point, then, is the approach of danger to be expected? Answer: if it ever reaches us, it must spring up *among us*.

"It cannot come from abroad. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of freeman, we must live through all time, or die by suicide."

The Easter would have been celebrated as never before, amid spring blossoms of flowers. The air was fanned with jubilant flags, as the winter had passed and the time was nigh for the singing of birds. Commerce flapped her long-folded wings, and the land would laugh with industry, plenty, and prosperity. In the twinkle of an eye we were brought down into the deepest affliction.—*William Adams.*

"I SWEAR ETERNAL FIDELITY TO THE JUST CAUSE."

(*Speech at Springfield, Ill., during the Harrison Presidential campaign, 1840.*)

"Many free countries have lost their liberty, and ours may lose hers; but if she shall, be it my
1840 proudest plume, not that I was last to desert, but that I never deserted, her.

"I know that the great volcano at Washington, aroused and directed by the evil spirit that reigns there, is belching forth the lava of political corruption in a current broad and deep, which is sweeping with frightful velocity over the whole length and breadth of the land, bidding fair to leave unscathed no green spot or living thing.

"I cannot deny that all may be swept away. Broken by it, I, too, may be; bow to it I never will. The possibility that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause which we believe to be just. It shall not deter me.

"If ever I feel the soul within me elevate and expand to those dimensions not wholly unworthy of its Almighty Architect, it is when I contemplate the cause of my country, deserted by all the world beside, and I standing up boldly, alone, and hurling defiance at her victorious oppressors.

He surpassed all orators in eloquence, all diplomatists in wisdom, all statesmen in foresight, and the most ambitious in fame.—*John J. Ingalls.*

"Here, without contemplating consequences, before Heaven, and in the face of the world, *I swear eternal fidelity to the just cause*, as I deem it, of the land of my life, my liberty, and my love; and who that thinks with me will not fearlessly adopt the oath that I take?

"Let none falter who thinks he is right, and we may succeed.

"But if, after all, we shall fail, be it so, we still have the proud consolation of saying to our con-
1840 sciences, and to the departed shade of our country's freedom, that the cause approved of our judgment, and adorned of our hearts in disaster, in chains, in death, we never faltered in defending."

THE TEMPERANCE CAUSE.

(*Address before the Washingtonian Temperance Society, Springfield, Ill., February 22, 1842.*)

"The cause itself seems suddenly transformed from a cold abstract theory to a living, breathing,
1842 active, and powerful chieftain going forth 'conquering and to conquer.' The citadels of his great adversary are daily being stormed and dismantled; his temples and his altars, where the rites of his idolatrous worship have long been performed, and where human sacrifices have long been wont to be made, are daily desecrated and deserted.

It appears to thoughtful minds that God called Abraham Lincoln to rise from the log cabin in the wilderness to take the helm of the new American nation in its crisis hour.—*C. A. Payne.*

A. LINCOLN.

From a sketch at the age of thirty-five.

"The trump of the conqueror's fame is sounding from hill to hill, from sea to sea, and from land to land, and calling millions to his standard at a blast.

"When one who has long been known as a victim of intemperance bursts the fetters that have bound him, and appears before his neighbors 'clothed and in his right mind,' a redeemed specimen of long-lost humanity, and stands up, with tears of joy trembling in his eyes, to tell of the miseries once endured, now to be endured no more forever; of his once naked and starving children, now clad and fed comfortably; of a wife, long weighed down with woe, weeping, and a broken heart, now restored to health, happiness, and a renewed affection; and how easily it is all done, once it is resolved to be done—how simple his language! There is a logic and an eloquence in it that few with human feelings can resist.

1842

"It is an old and true maxim 'that a drop of honey catches more flies than a gallon of gall.' So with men. If you would win a man to your cause, first convince him that you are his sincere friend. Therein is a drop of honey that catches his heart; which, say what he will, is the great highroad to his reason, and when once gained, you will find but little trouble in convincing his judgment of the justice of your cause, if, indeed, that cause really be a just one.

"On the contrary, assume to dictate to his judgment, or to command his action, or to mark him as

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Mr. Lincoln's history will be "of all time," and he will be recalled as one of the grandest figures of the world's history.—*Winfield S. Hancock.*

one to be shunned and despised, and he will retreat within himself, close all the avenues to his head and his heart, and though your cause be naked truth itself, transformed to the heaviest lance, harder than steel and sharper than steel can be made, and though you throw it with more than herculean force and precision, you shall be no more able to pierce him than to penetrate the hard shell of a tortoise with a rye straw.

"Of our political revolution of '76 we are all justly proud. It has given us a degree of political freedom far exceeding that of any other nation of the earth. But, with all these glorious results, past, present, and to come, it had its evils, too. It breathed forth famine, swam in blood, and rode in fire; and long, long after, the orphans' cry and the widows' wail continued to break the sad silence that ensued. These were the price, the inevitable price, paid for the blessings it brought.

1842

"Turn now to the temperance resolution. In it we shall find a stronger bondage broken, a viler slavery manumitted, a greater tyrant deposed—in it, more of want supplied, more disease healed, more sorrow assuaged. By it, no orphans starving, no widows weeping. By it, none wounded in feeling, none injured in interest; even the dram-maker and dram-seller will have glided into other occupations so gradually as never to have felt the change,

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His career closed at a moment when its dramatic unity was complete, and when his departure from life on earth was the apotheosis, the translation by which, defended against all shocks and mishaps of time, he passed on to immortality.—*John A. Andrew.*

and will stand ready to join all others in the universal song of gladness.

"And what a noble ally this, to the cause of political freedom; with such an aid, its march cannot fail to be on and on, till every son of earth shall drink in rich fruition the sorrow-quenching draughts of perfect liberty!

"Happy day, when, all appetite controlled, all passions subdued, all matter subjugated, mind—all-
1842 conquering mind—shall live and move, the monarch of the world! Glorious consummation! Hail, fall of fury! Reign of reason, all hail!

"And when the victory shall be complete,—when there shall be neither a slave nor a drunkard on earth,—how proud the title of that land, which may truly claim to be the birthplace and the cradle of both those resolutions that shall have ended in that victory! How nobly distinguished that people, who shall have planted, and nurtured to maturity, both the political and moral freedom of their species!

"This is the one hundred and tenth anniversary of the birthday of Washington—we are met to celebrate this day.

"Washington is the mightiest name on earth—long since mightiest in the cause of civil liberty, still mightiest in moral reformation.

"On that name a eulogy is expected. It cannot

He had learned from the holiest authority that God "hath made of one blood all nations of men," and that the immutable rule of right, as between man and man, is to do unto others as we would that they should do unto us.—*Joseph A. Seiss.*

be. To add brightness to the sun, or glory to the name of Washington, is alike impossible. Let none attempt it.

"In solemn awe pronounce the name, and in its naked, deathless splendor, leave it shining on."

MESSAGE TO HIS DYING FATHER.

(Letter to his brother-in-law, John Johnson, January 12, 1851.)

"I sincerely hope father may yet recover his health; but, at all events, tell him to remember to call upon and confide in our great and good
1851 and merciful Maker, who will not turn away from him in any extremity. He notes the fall of a sparrow, and numbers the hairs of our heads; and He will not forget the dying man who puts his trust in Him.

"Say to him, if we could meet now it is doubtful whether it would not be more painful than pleasant; but that, if it be his lot to go now, he will soon have a joyous meeting with loved ones gone before, and where the rest of us, through the help of God, hope ere long to join them."

Lincoln's deeds will live in the household words of an elevated race. First in the huts where the children are taught to speak his praise. Hereafter, the children of those children, in mansions built by their own skill, will weave his name in poetry, and, in rich music of their own, sing their praise of their great deliverer.—*J. C. Bingham.*

REDEMPTION OF THE AFRICAN RACE.

(*Eulogy on the life and character of Henry Clay, Springfield, Ill., July 16, 1852.*)

"This suggestion of the possible ultimate redemption of the African race and African continent was made twenty-five years ago. Every succeeding year has added strength to the hope of its realization. May it indeed be realized! Pharaoh's country was cursed with plagues, and his hosts drowned in the Red Sea for striving to retain a captive people who had already served them more than four hundred years. May like disaster never befall us!

1852

"If, as the friends of colonization hope, the present and coming generations of our countrymen shall, by any means, succeed in freeing our land from the dangerous presence of slavery, and at the same time restoring a captive people to their long-lost fatherland, with bright prospects for the future, and this, too, so gradually that neither races nor individuals shall have suffered by the change, it will, indeed, be a glorious consummation.

"And if to such a consummation the efforts of Mr. Clay shall have contributed, it will be what he most ardently wished; and none of his labors will have been more valuable to his country and his kind."

He was not carried away by the excitement by which he was surrounded. He possessed in a remarkable degree not only self-control, but sound common sense, which is often worth far more than brilliant talents and great learning.—*N. L. Rice.*

THE INJUSTICE OF SLAVERY.

(*Speech at Peoria, Ill., October 16, 1854.*)

"This declared indifference, but, as I must think, covert zeal, for the spread of slavery, I cannot but hate. I hate it because of the monstrous
1854 injustice of slavery itself; I hate it because it deprives our republic of an example of its just influence in the world; enables the enemies of free institutions with plausibility to taunt us as hypocrites; causes the real friends of freedom to doubt our sincerity; and, especially, because it forces so many really good men among ourselves into an open war with the very fundamental principles of civil liberty, criticising the Declaration of Independence and insisting that there is no right principle of action but self-interest.

"The doctrine of self-government is right,—absolutely and eternally right,—but it has no just application, as here attempted. Or, perhaps, I should rather say, that whether it has such just application depends upon whether a negro is not, or is, a man. If he is not a man, in that case he who is a man may, as a matter of self-government, do just what he pleases with him. But if the negro is a man, is it not to that extent a total destruction of self-government to say that he, too, shall not govern himself?

"When the white man governs himself that is

Having determined upon the profession of law, he fenced in his mind to book study with the same energy and resolution with which he had split three thousand rails to fence in the field around his father's home.—*Joseph P. Thompson.*

self-government; but when he governs himself, and also governs another man, that is more than self-government—that is despotism.

"What I do say is, that no man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent.

"The master not only governs the slave without his consent, but he governs him by a set of rules altogether different from those which he prescribes for himself. Allow all the governed an equal voice in the government; that, and that only, is self-government.

1854

"Slavery is founded in the selfishness of man's nature—opposition to it, in his love of justice. These principles are an eternal antagonism; and when brought into collision so fiercely as slavery extension brings them, shocks and throes and convulsions must ceaselessly follow.

"Repeal the Missouri Compromise—repeal all compromise—and repeal the Declaration of Independence—repeal all past history—still you cannot repeal human nature.

"I particularly object to the new position which the avowed principles of the Nebraska law gives to slavery in the body politic. I object to it, because it assumes that there can be moral right in the enslaving of one man by another. I object to it as a dangerous dalliance for a free people,—a sad evidence that feeling prosperity, we forget right,—that liberty as a principle we have ceased to revere.

"With malice toward none" was his dying charge. It sounds strangely like the last words of Him who, when dying on the cross, looked down upon his murderers and prayed: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."—*Daniel C. Eddy.*

"Little by little, but steadily as man's march to the grave, we have been giving up the old for the new faith. Near eighty years ago we began by declaring that all men are created equal; but now from that beginning we have run down to the other declaration that for some men to enslave others is a 'sacred right of self-government.' These principles cannot stand together. They are as opposite as God and Mammon.

1854

"Our republican robe is soiled and trailed in the dust. Let us purify it. Let us turn and wash it white, in the spirit, if not in the blood, of the Revolution.

"Let us turn slavery from its claims of 'moral right' back upon its existing legal rights, and its arguments of 'necessity.' Let us return it to the position our fathers gave it, and there let it rest in peace.

"Let us re-adopt the Declaration of Independence, and the practices and policy which harmonize with it. Let North and South—let all Americans—let all lovers of liberty everywhere, join in the great and good work.

"If we do this, we shall not only have saved the Union, but shall have so saved it, as to make and to keep it forever worthy of saving. We shall have so saved it that the succeeding millions of free, happy people, the world over, shall rise up and call us blessed to the latest generations."

Fostered and stimulated only by the genius of that government under which he lived, he attained by his own efforts to such a stately height that the nation caught him up as the tallest of her children, and lifted him to her head.—*John C. Thompson.*

"THE ONE RETROGRADE INSTITUTION IN AMERICA."

(Reply to Stephen A. Douglas, on the Kansas and Nebraska Bill, Springfield, Ill., October 4, 1854.)

"Be not deceived. The spirit of the Revolution and the spirit of Nebraska are antipodes; and the former is being rapidly displaced by the latter. Shall we make no effort to arrest this? Already the liberal party throughout the world express the apprehension 'that the one retrograde institution in America is undermining the principles of progress, and fatally violating the noblest political system the world ever saw.' This is not the taunt of enemies, but the warning of friends. Is it quite safe to disregard it—to disparage it? Is there no danger to liberty itself in discarding the earliest practice, and first precept of our ancient faith?

1854

"In our greedy haste to make profit of the negro, let us beware lest we cancel and rend in pieces even the white man's character of freedom.

"My distinguished friend, Douglas, says it is an insult to the emigrant to Kansas and Nebraska to suppose they are not able to govern themselves. We must not slur over an argument of this kind because it happens to tickle the ear. It must be met and answered.

A poor, plain, simple, honest, laborious, American life, with learning drained chiefly from nature, made him healthy, strong, self-reliant, calm, true, honest, brave, diligent, and developed all the true manlier qualities.—*Charles M. Ellis.*

"I admit the emigrant to Kansas and Nebraska is competent to govern himself, but, *I deny his right to govern any other person without that person's consent.*"

HOPELESS PEACEFUL EMANCIPATION OF THE SLAVE.

(*Letter to Hon. Geo. Robertson,* Lexington, Ky., August 15, 1855.*)

"So far as peaceful voluntary emancipation is concerned, the condition of the negro slave in
1855 America, scarcely less terrible to the contemplation of a free mind, is now as fixed and hopeless of change for the better as that of the lost souls of the finally impenitent.

"The Autocrat of all the Russias will resign his crown, and proclaim his subjects free republicans, sooner than will our American masters voluntarily give up their slaves.

"Our political problem now is, Can we as a nation continue together permanently—forever—half slave and half free? The problem is too mighty for me. May God in his mercy superintend the solution!"

* "Abraham Lincoln—A History," Nicolay and Hay, 1890.

He grasped the reins for that perilous career on which he had been driven, and, to the admiration of the world, he held them till the assassin's bullet struck them loose, just as he was wheeling the nation through the gates of victory into the morning light of peace.—*James A. McCauley.*

"ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL."

(Speech at the Republican banquet, Chicago, Ill., December 10, 1856, after the Presidential campaign.)

"Our government rests in public opinion. Whoever can change public opinion can change the government practically just so much. Public opinion, on any subject, always has a 'central idea,' from which all its minor thoughts radiate. That 'central idea' in our political public opinion at the beginning was, and until recently has continued to be, 'the equality of man.' And although it has always submitted patiently to whatever of inequality there seemed to be as matter of actual necessity, its constant working has been a steady progress toward the practical equality of all men.

1856

"Let everyone who really believes, and is resolved, that free society is not and shall not be a failure, and who can conscientiously declare that in the past contest he has done only what he thought best, let every such one have charity to believe that every other one can say as much.

"Thus let bygones be bygones; let party differences as nothing be; and with steady eye on the real issue, let us reinaugurate the good old 'central ideas' of the republic. We can do it. The human heart is with us; God is with us.

The four years of Mr. Lincoln's administrative life have put upon American annals a record of events, wrought out under his supervision, which are unrivaled in the brilliancy of their character and results by any that have appeared upon the historic page.—*James M. Ludlow.*

"We shall again be able not to declare that 'all States as States are equal,' nor yet that 'all citizens as citizens are equal,' but to renew the broader, better declaration, including both these and much more, that 'all men are created equal.'"

1856

SPEECH ON THE DRED SCOTT DECISION.

(Delivered at Springfield, Ill., June 26, 1857.)

"The Chief Justice does not directly assert, but plainly assumes as a fact, that the public estimate of the black man is more favorable now than it was in the days of the Revolution.

1857

"In those days, by common consent, the spread of the black man's bondage to the new countries was prohibited; but now Congress decides that it will not continue the prohibition, and the Supreme Court decides that it could not if it would.

"In those days, our Declaration of Independence was held sacred by all, and thought to include all; but now, to aid in making the bondage of the negro universal and eternal, it is assailed and sneered at, and constructed and hawked at, and torn, till, if its framers could rise from their graves, they could not at all recognize it.

"All the powers of earth seem rapidly combining against him; Mammon is after him, ambition follows, philosophy follows, and the theology of the

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He showed himself more and more equal to duty as year after year laid on him ever fresh burdens. God-given and God-led and sustained, we must ever believe him.— *Wendell Phillips.*

day is fast joining the cry. They have him in his prison house, they have searched his person and left no prying instrument with him. One after another they have closed the heavy iron doors upon him; and now they have him, as it were, bolted in with a lock of a hundred keys, which can never be unlocked without the concurrence of every key; the keys in the hands of a hundred different men, and they scattered to a hundred different and distant places, and they stand musing as to what invention, in all the dominions of mind and matter, can be produced to make the impossibility of his escape more complete than it is."

"A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND."

(*The following speech—afterward severely criticised by many of the author's own friends—was delivered by Mr. Lincoln at Springfield, Ill., June 17, 1858, at the close of the Republican State Convention, which nominated him for the United States Senate.*)

"If we could first know where we are, and whither we are tending, we could better judge what to do and how to do it. We are now far into the fifth year since a policy was initiated with the avowed object, and confident promise, of

1858

He had been vigilant, untiring, zealous only for his country and the rights and liberties of his countrymen, and their children and children's children to the latest generation.—*Sidney Dean.*

putting an end to slavery agitation. Under the operation of that policy that agitation has not only not ceased, but has constantly augmented.

"In my opinion, it will not cease until a crisis shall have been reached and passed.

"'A house divided against itself cannot stand.' I believe this government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free. I do not
1858 expect the Union to be dissolved; I do not expect the house to fall; but I do expect it will cease to be divided. It will become all one thing, or all the other.

"Either the opponents of slavery will arrest the further spread of it, and place it where the public mind shall rest in the belief that it is in the course of ultimate extinction; or its advocates will push it forward, till it shall become alike lawful in all the States—old as well as new, North as well as South.

"Our cause, then, must be intrusted to, and conducted by, its own undoubted friends—those whose hands are free, whose hearts are in the work—who *do care* for the result.

"The result is not doubtful. We shall not fail—if we stand firm, we *shall not fail.* Wise counsels may accelerate, or mistakes delay it, but, sooner, or later, the victory is sure to come."

That plain, good man, who, with life's parting tone,
Breathed charity for all, and malice toward none,
So kind, so truthful, modest, and sincere,
Prompt to forgive the injury and the sneer.

—*Isaac McLellan.*

THE ELECTRIC CORD IN THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

(*Reply to Senator Douglas, Chicago, Ill., July 10, 1858.*)

"'We holds these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.' There is the origin of Popular Sovereignty. Who, then, shall come in at this day and claim that he invented it?

1858

"I am not master of language; I have not a fine education; I am not capable of entering into a disquistion upon dialectics, as I believe you call it; but I do not believe the language I employed bears any such construction as Judge Douglas puts upon it. I have said a hundred times, and I have now no inclination to take it back, that I believe there is no right, and ought to be no inclination, in the people of the free States to enter into the slave States and interefere with the question of slavery at all.

"We find a race of men living in that day whom we claim as our fathers and grandfathers; they were iron men; they fought for the principle that they were contending for; and we understood that by what they then did it has followed that the

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His wisdom, his accurate perceptions, his vigor of intellect, his humor and his unselfish patriotism, endeared him to the people.—*Cyrus Northrop.*

degree of prosperity which we now enjoy has come to us.

"We hold this annual celebration (4th of July) to remind ourselves of all the good done in this process of time, of how it was done, and who did it, and how we are historically connected with it; and we go from these meetings in better humor with ourselves—we feel more attached the one to the other, and more firmly bound to the country we inhabit.

1858

"In every way we are better men in the age, and race, and country in which we live, for these celebrations. But after we have done all of this we have not yet reached the whole. There is something else connected with it.

"We have besides these, men—descended by blood from our ancestors—among us, perhaps half our people, who are not descendants at all of these men; they are men who have come from Europe—German, Irish, French, and Scandinavian—men that have come from Europe themselves, or whose ancestors have come hither and settled here, finding themselves our equals in all things.

"If they look back through this history to trace their connection with those days by blood, they find they have none—they cannot carry themselves back into that glorious epoch and make themselves feel that they are part of us. But when they look through that old Declaration of

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Never, amid the utmost fury of the storm that was beating around him, did his composure desert him; he had his work to do, and he meant to do it. His cheerfulness relieved the burden of duty and the gloom of his friends.—*Edward C. Slater.*

Independence, they find that those old men say that 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal,' and then they feel that that moral sentiment taught in that day evidences their relation to those men; that it is the father of all moral principal in them, and that they have a right to claim it as though they were blood of the blood, and flesh of the flesh, of the men who wrote that Declaration; and so they are.

"That is the electric cord in the Declaration that links the hearts of patriotic and liberty-loving men together; that will link those patriotic hearts as long as the love of freedom exists in the mind of men throughout the world.

"My friend has said to me that I am a poor hand to quote Scripture; I will try it again, however. It is said in one of the admonitions of our Lord, 1858 'As your Father in heaven is perfect, be ye also perfect.' The Saviour, I suppose, did not expect that any human creature could be perfect as the Father in heaven; but he said, 'As your Father in heaven is perfect, be ye also perfect.' He set that up as a standard, and he who did most toward reaching that standard, attained the highest degree of moral perfection.

"So I say in relation to the principle that all men are created equal, let it be as nearly reached as we can. If we cannot give freedom to every creature,

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No other President of this nation had been subjected to a trial such as his. He was a man lost in a wilderness, where there was no visible road for escape, and we complained of him because he tried honestly to make the best road he could to get out at all.—*R. J. Keeling.*

let us do nothing that will impose slavery upon any other creature.

"I leave you, hoping that the lamp of liberty will burn in your bosoms until there shall no longer be a doubt that all men are created free and equal."

DISADVANTAGES THE REPUBLICANS LABOR UNDER.

(*Speech at Springfield, Ill., July 17, 1858.*)

"Senator Douglas is of world-wide renown. All the anxious politicians of his party, or who have been of his party for years past, have been looking upon him as certainly, at no distant day, to be the President of the United States. They have seen in his round, jolly, fruitful face, post offices, land offices, marshalships, and cabinet appointments, chargeships, and foreign missions, bursting and sprouting out in wonderful exuberance, ready to be laid hold of by their greedy hands.

1858

"And as they have been gazing upon this attractive picture so long, they cannot, in the little distraction that has taken place in the party, bring themselves to give up the charming hope; but with greedier anxiety they rush about him, sustain him, and give him marches, triumphal entries, and receptions beyond what, even in the days of his highest prosperty, they could have brought about in his favor.

"On the contrary, nobody has ever expected me

May his kindly words ever re-echo in our hearts, and incite us to godliness and truth.—*S. Morais.*

to be President. In my poor, lean, lank face, nobody has ever seen that any cabbages were sprouting out. These are disadvantages, all taken together, that the Republicans labor under. *We* have to fight this battle upon principle, and upon principle alone.

1858

"I am, in a certain sense, made the standard-bearer in behalf of the Republicans. I was made so merely because there had to be someone so placed, I being no wise preferable to any other one of the twenty-five—perhaps a hundred—we have in the Republican ranks.

"Then, I say I wish it to be distinctly understood and borne in mind that we have to fight this battle without many—perhaps without any—of the external aids which are brought to bear against us. So I hope those with whom I am surrounded have principle enough to nerve themselves for the task, and leave nothing undone that can be fairly done, to bring about the right result."

"THIS NATION CANNOT LIVE ON INJUSTICE."

(*Remarks defending his speech, June 17: "A House Divided Against Itself," etc.*)

"Friends, I have thought about this matter a great deal, have weighed the question well from all corners, and am thoroughly convinced the time has come when it should be uttered;

1858

He was a spotless apostle of human liberty.—*Parke Godwin.*

and if it must be that I must go down because of this speech, then let me go down *linked to truth*,—die in the advocacy of what is *right* and *just*.

"This nation cannot live on injustice. 'A house divided against itself cannot stand,' I say again and again."

WOULD LEAVE IT TO THE WORLD UNERASED.

When Dr. Long said to his friend, "Well, Lincoln, that foolish speech will kill you—will defeat you for all offices for all time to come," referring to the "House Divided" speech, Mr. Lincoln replied:

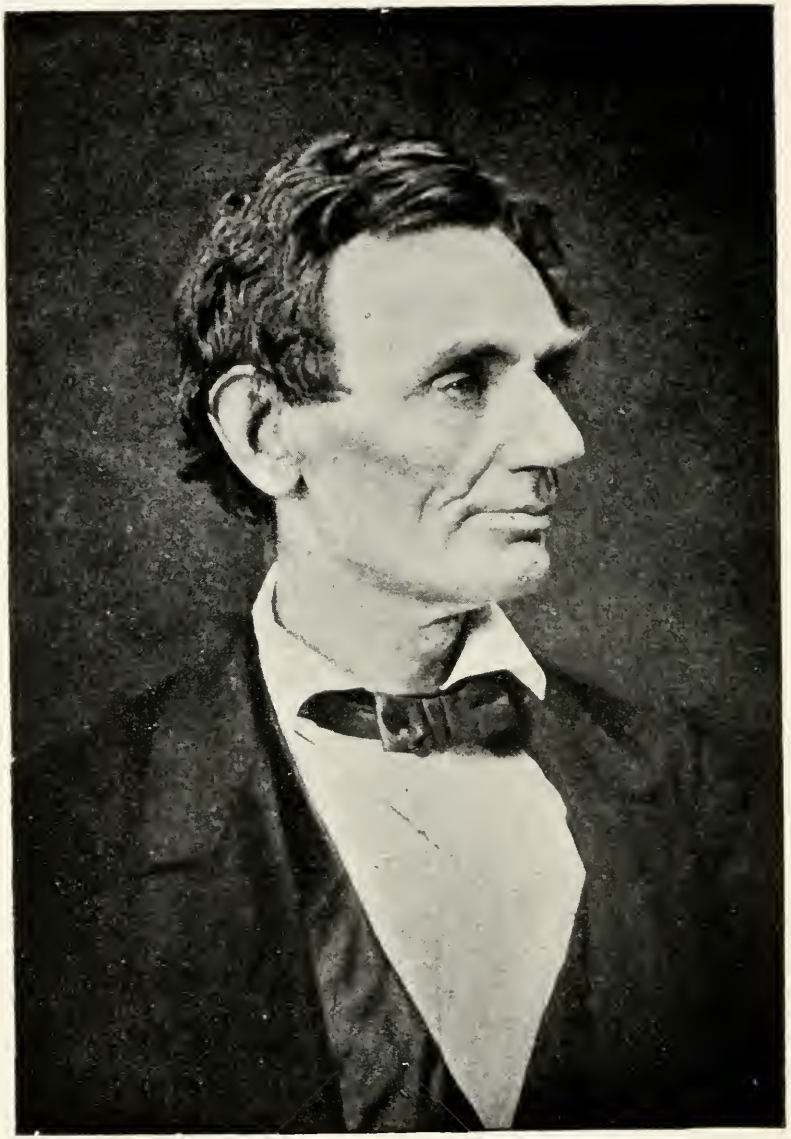
"If I had to draw a pen across and erase my whole life from existence, and I had one poor gift or choice left, as to what I should save from
1858 the wreck, I should choose that speech, and leave it to the world unerased."

"WISEST THING I EVER DID."

(*Reply to friends at Bloomington, Ill., in regard to the "House Divided" speech.*)

"You may think that speech was a mistake; but I never have believed it was, and you will see the day when you will consider it the wisest thing
1858 I ever did."

He was too good a man himself to be very suspicious of others, and he was too much engrossed in his cares for his country to have much thought for his personal safety.—*Thomas Chase.*



Photo, 1860, *by Hesler.*

A. LINCOLN.

LINCOLN AND DOUGLAS JOINT DEBATE.

(*First joint debate, Ottawa, Ill., August 21, 1858.*)

"I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery in the State where it exists. I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination do so. I agree with Judge Douglas: he [the negro] is not my equal in many respects—certainly not in color; perhaps not in moral or intellectual endowment. But in the right to eat the bread—without the leave of anybody else—which his own hand earns, *he is my equal, and the equal of Judge Douglas, and the equal of every living man.*

1858

"I think, and shall try to show, that it is wrong, wrong in its direct effect, letting slavery into Kansas and Nebraska—and wrong in its prospective principle, allowing it to spread to every other part of the wide world, where men can be found inclined to take it.

"I have no prejudice against the Southern people. They are just what we would be in their situation. If slavery did not now exist among them, they would not introduce it. If it did now exist among us, we should not instantly give it up. This I believe of the masses North and South. Doubtless there are individuals on both sides who

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High above his obelisk a new star to which history will point as the symbol of loyalty to God, to moral ideas, and to humanity.—*Newton Bateman.*

would not hold slaves under any circumstances; and others who would gladly introduce slavery anew, if it were out of existence.

"When Southern people tell us they are no more responsible for the origin of slavery than we, I acknowledge the fact. When it is said that the institution exists, and that it is very difficult to get rid of it in any satisfactory way, I can understand and appreciate the saying. I surely will not blame them for not doing what I should not know how to do myself. If all earthly power were given me, I should not know what to do, as to the existing institution.

1858

"With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without it, nothing can succeed. Consequently, he who molds public sentiment goes deeper than he who enacts statutes or pronounces decisions. He makes statutes and decisions possible or impossible to be executed."

(*Second joint debate, Freeport, Ill., August 27, 1858.*)

Answers to the seven questions propounded by Mr. Douglas:

"I do not now, nor ever did, stand in favor of the unconditional repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law.

1858

"I do not now, nor ever did, stand pledged against the admission of any more slave States into the Union.

In Mr. Lincoln's history there is as much profound stimulus to the young men of the country who desire to secure it, as in that of any man who has figured in our annals.—*A. H. Garland.*

"I do not stand pledged against the admission of a new State into the Union, with such a constitution as the people of that State may see fit to make.

"I do not stand to-day pledged to the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia.

"I do not stand pledged to the prohibition of the slave trade between the different States.

"I am impliedly, if not expressly, pledged to a belief in the *right* and *duty* of Congress to prohibit slavery in all the United States Territories.

"I am not generally opposed to honest acquisition of territory; and, in any given case, I would or would not oppose such acquisition, accordingly, as I might think such acquisition would or would not aggravate the slavery question among ourselves."

1858

(*Third joint debate, Jonesboro, Ill., September 15, 1858.*)

"I say, in the way our fathers originally left the slavery question, the institution was in the course of ultimate extinction, and the public mind rested in the belief that it *was* in the course of ultimate extinction. I say, when this Government was first established, it was the policy of its founders to prohibit the spread of slavery into the new Territories of the United States, where it had not existed.

1858

"All I have asked or desired anywhere, is that it should be placed back again upon the basis

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We seem to have agreed to place him upon a pedestal where no other feet shall ever be suffered to stand—an altitude of worth and greatness where none may approach and rival him.—*Wm. Irvin.*

that the fathers of our Government originally placed it upon. I have no doubt that it *would* become extinct for all time to come, if we but re-adopt the policy of the fathers by restricting it to the limits it has already covered—restricting it from the new Territories."

(*Fourth joint debate, Charleston, Ill., September 18, 1858.*)

"I have always wanted to deal with everyone I meet candidly and honestly. If I have made any assertion not warranted by facts, and it is pointed out to me, I will withdraw it cheerfully.

1858

"The Nebraska-Kansas bill was introduced four years and a half ago, and if the agitation is ever to come to an end, we may say we are four years and a half nearer the end. So, too, we can say we are four years and a half nearer the end of the world; and we can just as clearly see the end of the world as we can see the end of this agitation.

"If Kansas should sink to-day, and leave a great vacant space in the earth's surface, this vexed question would still be among us. I say, then, there is no way of putting an end to the slavery agitation amongst us but to put it back upon the basis where our fathers placed it, no way but to keep it out of our new Territories—to restrict it forever to the old States where it now exists. Then the public mind

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All the blood of four hundred thousand lives has not been grieved for so much as that which has trickled from a single wound.—*Treadwell Walden.*

will rest in the belief that it is in the course of ultimate extinction."

(*Fifth joint debate, Galesburg, Ill., October 7, 1858.*)

"And now it only remains for me to say that I think it is a very grave question for the people of this Union to consider whether, in view of the fact that this slavery question has been the only one that has ever endangered our republican institutions—the only one that has ever threatened or menaced a dissolution of the Union, that has ever disturbed us in such a way as to make us fear for the perpetuity of our liberty—in view of these facts, I think it is an exceedingly interesting and important question for this people to consider—whether we shall engage in the policy of acquiring additional territory, discarding altogether from our consideration while obtaining new territory, the question how it may affect us in regard to this, the only endangering, element to our liberties and national greatness."

1858

(*Sixth joint debate, Quincy, Ill., October 13, 1858.*)

"We have in this nation this element of domestic slavery. It is the opinion of all the great men who have expressed an opinion upon it, that it is a dangerous element. We keep up a controversy in regard to it. That controversy

1858

Who of us thought, on the morning of April 14, as we grasped the cup of thanksgiving, that it would soon be dashed from us, and the wine of bitterness pressed to our lips?—*Herrick Johnson.*

necessarily springs from differences of opinion, and if we can learn exactly—can reduce to the lowest elements—what that difference of opinion is, we perhaps shall be better prepared for discussing the different systems of policy that we would propose in regard to that disturbing element.

"I suggest that the difference of opinion, reduced to its lowest terms, is no other than the difference between the men who think slavery a wrong and those who do not think it wrong. 1858

"We think it is a wrong not confining itself merely to the persons or the States where it exists, but that it is a wrong in its tendency, to say the least, that extends itself to the existence of the whole nation.

"Because we think it wrong, we propose a course of policy that shall deal with it as a wrong. We deal with it as with any other wrong, in so far as we can prevent its growing any larger, and so deal with it that, in the run of time, there may be some promise of an end to it."

(*Seventh and last joint debate, Alton, Ill., October 15, 1858.*)

"It may be argued that there are certain conditions that make necessities and impose them upon us, and to the extent that a necessity is imposed upon a man he must submit to it. I think that was the condition in which we found ourselves when we established this government. 1858

Abraham Lincoln was the greatest president that ever occupied the executive chair, and the best story teller ever known to a free people. —*Hugh J. Hastings.*

"We had slaves among us; we could not get our constitution unless we permitted them to remain in slavery; we could not secure the good we did secure if we grasped for more; and having by necessity submitted to that much, it does not destroy the principle that is the charter of our liberties. Let the charter remain as a standard.

"I think the authors of that notable instrument intended to include *all* men, but they did not mean to declare all men equal *in all respects*.

"They defined with tolerable distinctness in what they did consider all men created equal: equal in certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This they said, and this they meant. They did not mean to assert the obvious untruth, that all men were then actually enjoying that quality, or yet that they were about to confer it immediately upon them. In fact, they had no power to confer such a boon. They meant simply to declare the *right*, so that the enforcement of it might follow as fast as circumstances should permit.

"They meant to set up a standard maxim for free society, which should be familiar to all, constantly looked to, constantly labored for, and even though never perfectly attained, constantly approximated, and thereby constantly spreading and deepening its influence and augmenting the happiness and value of life to all people, of all colors, everywhere.

1858

He has done his work and will live an almost spotless character, embalmed forever in the nation's heart, as the patron saint of its consummated liberty.—*Henry Smith.*

"There, again, are the sentiments I have expressed in regard to the Declaration of Independence upon a former occasion—sentiments which have been put in print and read wherever anybody cared to know what so humble an individual as myself chose to say in regard to it."

"THOSE WHO DENY FREEDOM TO OTHERS DESERVE IT NOT FOR THEMSELVES."

(*Letter to the Republicans of Boston, April, 1859.*)

"This is a world of compensation, and he who would *be* no slave, must consent to *have* no slave. Those who deny freedom to others deserve
1859 it not for themselves, and under a just God cannot long retain it."

NATURAL RIGHTS OF THE NEGRO.

(*Speech at Columbus, O., September, 1859.*)

"I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and the black races. There is a physical difference
1859 between the two which, in my judgment, will probably forbid their ever living together upon the footing of perfect equality, and inasmuch as it

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Great, illustrious, and successful as was his statesmanship, clear, penetrating, and vigorous, his manhood must be acknowledged as that which has most enshrined him in the hearts of his countrymen.—*Edward Searing.*

becomes a necessity that there must be a difference, I, as well as Judge Douglas, am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superior position.

"I have never said anything to the contrary, but I hold that, notwithstanding all this, there is no reason in the world why the negro is not entitled to all the natural rights enumerated in the Declaration of Independence, the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

"In the right to eat the bread—without leave of anybody else—which his own hands earn, *he is my equal, and the equal of Judge Douglas, and the equal of every living man.*"

KINDLY FEELING FOR HIS OPPONENTS.

(*Speech at Cincinnati, O., September, 1859, addressed particularly to Kentuckians.*)

"I will tell you, so far as I am authorized to speak for the opposition, what we mean to do with you.

1859 We mean to treat you, as near as we possibly can, as Washington, Jefferson, and Madison treated you. We mean to leave you alone, and in no way to interfere with your institution; to abide by all and every compromise of the Constitution, and, in a word, coming back to the original proposition, to treat you so far as degenerated

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The character of Abraham Lincoln was beautifully molded by the efforts of a mother, and the American people saw them in him when they called him to be the chief magistrate of the nation.—*Robert H Williams.*

men (if we have degenerated) may, according to the examples of those noble fathers—Washington, Jefferson, and Madison.

"We mean to remember that you are as good as we; that there is no difference between us other than the difference of circumstances. We mean to recognize and bear in mind always that you have as good hearts in your bosoms as other people, or as we claim to have, and treat you accordingly. We mean to marry your girls when we have a chance,—the white ones, I mean,—and I have the honor to inform you that I once did have a chance in that way.

"The good old maxims of the Bible are applicable to human affairs, and in this, as in other things, we may say here that he who is not for us is against us; he who gathereth not with us scattereth.

1859

"I should be glad to have some of the many good and able and noble men of the South to place themselves where we can confer upon them the high honor of an election upon one or the other end of our ticket. It would do my soul good to do that thing.

"It would enable us to teach them that, inasmuch as we elect one of their number to carry out our principles, we are free from the charge that we mean more than we say."

Heroic soul, in homely garb half hid.
Sincere, sagacious, melancholy, quaint.
What he endured, no less than what he did,
Has reared his monument, and crowned him saint.

—*J. T. Trowbridge.*

SETTLEMENT WITH AN AGENT OF THE POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

An agent of the Post Office Department called upon Mr. Lincoln, as late postmaster at New Salem. Ill., to obtain a small balance of seventeen dollars, which was found due the department. Going to an old trunk, Mr. Lincoln took therefrom the exact amount, which he had laid away, and handed it to the agent with the remark: "I never use any man's money but my own."

1859

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

The following autobiography was written by Mr. Lincoln's own hand at the request of J. W. Fell of Springfield, Ill., December 20, 1859. In the note which accompanied it the writer says: "Herewith is a little sketch, as you requested. There is not much of it, for the reason, I suppose, that there is not much of me."

"I was born February 12, 1809, in Hardin Co., Ky. My parents were both born in Virginia, of undistinguished families — second families, perhaps I should say. My mother, who died in my tenth year, was of a family of the name of Hanks, some of whom now reside in Adams Co., and others in Mason Co., Ill. My paternal grandfather, Abraham Lincoln, emigrated from

1859

More eyes have looked upon his funeral procession for sixteen hundred miles or more by night and by day, by sunlight, twilight, and torchlight, than ever before watched the progress of a procession. —*Richard H. Steele.*

Rockingham Co., Va., to Kentucky, about 1781 or 1782, where, a year or two later, he was killed by Indians, not in battle, but by stealth, when he was laboring to open a farm in the forest. His ancestors, who were Quakers, went to Virginia from Berks Co., Pa. An effort to identify them with the New England family of the same name ended in nothing more definite than a similarity of Christian names in both families, such as Enoch, Levi, Mordecai, Solomon, Abraham, and the like.

"My father, at the death of his father, was but six years of age, and grew up literally without any education. He removed from Kentucky to what is now Spencer Co., Ind., in my eighth year. We reached our new home about the time the State came into the Union. It was a wild region, with many bears and other wild animals still in the woods. There I grew up. There were some schools, so-called, but no qualification was ever required of a teacher beyond 'readin', writin', and cipherin',' to the rule of three. If a straggler, supposed to understand Latin, happened to sojourn in the neighborhood, he was looked upon as a wizard. There was absolutely nothing to excite ambition for education. Of course, when I came of age I did not know much. Still, somehow, I could read, write, and cipher to the rule of three, but that was all. I have not been to school since. The little advance I now have upon this store of education I

Mr. Lincoln believed the Union was to stand and be a union for liberty, and he wisely believed the less of wrath the people had to forget the easier it would be in the great day of reconstruction to close up in a fellowship that should endure.—*A. D. Mayo.*

have picked up from time to time under the pressure of necessity.

"I was raised to farm work, at which I continued till I was twenty-two. At twenty-one I came to Illinois, and passed the first year in Macon County. Then I got to New Salem, at that time in Sangamon, now Menard County, where I remained a year as a sort of clerk in a store. Then came the Black Hawk War, and I was elected a captain of volunteers—a success which gave me more pleasure than any I have had since. I went into the campaign, was elected, ran for the Legislature the same year (1832), and was beaten—the only time I have ever been beaten by the people. The next and three succeeding biennial elections I was elected to the Legislature. I was not a candidate afterward. During the legislative period I had studied law, and removed to Springfield to practice it. In 1846 I was elected to the Lower House of Congress. Was not a candidate for re-election. From 1849 to 1854, both inclusive, practiced law more assiduously than ever before. Always a Whig in politics, and generally on the Whig electoral ticket, making active canvasses. I was losing interest in politics when the repeal of the Missouri Compromise aroused me again. What I have done since then is pretty well known.

"If any personal description of me is thought desirable, it may be said I am in height six feet four

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If he could have roused for one moment to consciousness and his lips had had power to speak, who can doubt that his language would have been, forgetting all personal wrong, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."—*Charles Lowe.*

inches, nearly; lean in flesh, weighing, on an average, one hundred and eighty pounds; dark complexion, with coarse black hair and gray eyes—no other marks or brands recollected.

"Yours very truly,

"A. LINCOLN."

VIEWS REGARDING A PROTECTIVE TARIFF.

(*Letter to Dr. Edward Wallace, October 11, 1859.*)

"I believe if we could have a moderate, carefully adjusted protective tariff, so far acquiesced in as not to be a perpetual subject of political
1859 strife, squabbles, changes, and uncertainties, it would be better for us."

"LET US HAVE FAITH THAT RIGHT MAKES MIGHT."

(*Speech at Cooper Institute, February 27, 1860.*)

"I defy anyone to show that any living man in the whole world ever did, prior to the beginning of
1860 the present century (and I might almost say prior to the beginning of the last half of the present century), declare that, in his understanding, any proper division of local from Federal authority, or any part of the Constitution, forbade the Federal

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He was a great leader, because to his common sense was added the gift of imagination.—*Charles Dudley Warner.*

Government to control as to slavery in the Federal Territories.

"To those who now so declare, I give, not only 'our fathers who framed the government under which we live,' but with them all other living men within the century in which it was framed, among whom to search, and they shall not be able to find the evidence of a single man agreeing with them.

"I do not mean to say we are bound to follow implicitly in whatever our fathers did. To do so would be to discard all the lights of current experience, to reject all progress, all improvement. What I do say is, that if we would supplant the opinions and policy of our fathers in any case, we should do so upon evidence so conclusive, and argument so clear, that even their authority, fairly considered and weighed, cannot stand; and most surely not in a case whereof we ourselves declare they understood the question better than we.

"Let all who believe that 'our fathers, who framed the government under which we live,' understood this question just as well, and even better, than we do now, speak as they spoke, and act as they acted upon it.

1860

"It is exceedingly desirable that all parts of this great confederacy shall be at peace, and in harmony, one with another. Let us Republicans do our part to have it so. Even though much provoked, let us do nothing through passion and ill-temper.

Abraham Lincoln threw himself into the deadly breach to perpetuate the freedom and integrity of the nation.—*D. L. Gear.*

"Even though the Southern people will not so much as listen to us, let us calmly consider their demands, and yield to them if, in our deliberate view of our duty, we possibly can. Judging by all they say and do, and by the subject and nature of their controversy with us, let us determine, if we can, what will satisfy them.

"Wrong as we think slavery is, we can yet afford to let it alone where it is, because that much is due to the necessity arising from its actual presence in the nation. But can we, while our votes will prevent it, allow it to spread into the national Territories, and to overrun us here in these free States?

1860

"If our sense of duty forbids this, then let us stand by our duty, fearlessly and effectively. Let us be diverted by none of those sophistical contrivances wherewith we are so industriously plied and belabored—contrivances such as groping for some middle ground between the right and wrong, vain as the search for a man who should be neither a living man nor a dead man; such as a policy of 'don't care' on a question about which all true men do care; such as Union appeals beseeching true Union men to yield to Disunionists, reversing the divine rule, and calling, not the sinners, but the righteous to repentance; such as invocations to Washington imploring men to unsay what Washington said, and undo what Washington did.

Scan the world, select the greatest statesmen and scholars of the Old and New World, and tell me, with the light even of to-day, where is the man who could have better executed the trusts committed to him than Abraham Lincoln.—*Rufus P. Tapley.*

"Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty, as we understand it."

"WE SHALL TRY TO DO OUR DUTY."

(Speech at Leavenworth, Kans., spring of 1860.)

"If we shall constitutionally elect a President, it will be our duty to see that you also submit. Old
1860 John Brown has been executed for treason against a State. We cannot object, even though he agreed with us in thinking slavery wrong. That cannot excuse violence, bloodshed, and treason. It could avail him nothing that he might think himself right. So, if we constitutionally elect a president, and, therefore, you undertake to destroy the Union, it will be our duty to deal with you as old John Brown has been dealt with. We shall try to do our duty. We hope and believe that in no section will a majority so act as to render such extreme measure necessary."

WOULD NOT BUY THE NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

To a party who wished to be empowered to nego-
1860 tiate reward for promises of influence in the Chicago Convention, 1860, Mr. Lincoln replied:

It did not please God to spare him until the people were settled in peace in the redeemed and reunited land.—*S. Irenæus Prime.*

"No, gentlemen; I have not asked the nomination, and I will not now buy it with pledges. If I am nominated and elected, I shall not go into the presidency as the tool of this man or that man, or as the property of any factor or clique."

FIRST NEWS OF HIS NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

1860 While seated in the *Journal* office, Springfield, Ill., May 8, 1860, Mr. Lincoln was handed a telegram which gave him the first news of his nomination for presidency. His first words were:

"There's a little woman down at our house would like to hear this—I'll go down and tell her."

FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

(*Reply to the President of the Convention, at the Homestead, Springfield, May 19, 1860.*)

1860 "I tender to you, and through you to the Republican National Convention, and all the people represented in it, my profoundest thanks for the high honor done me, which you now formally announce.

"Deeply, and even painfully, sensible of the great responsibility which is inseparable from this high

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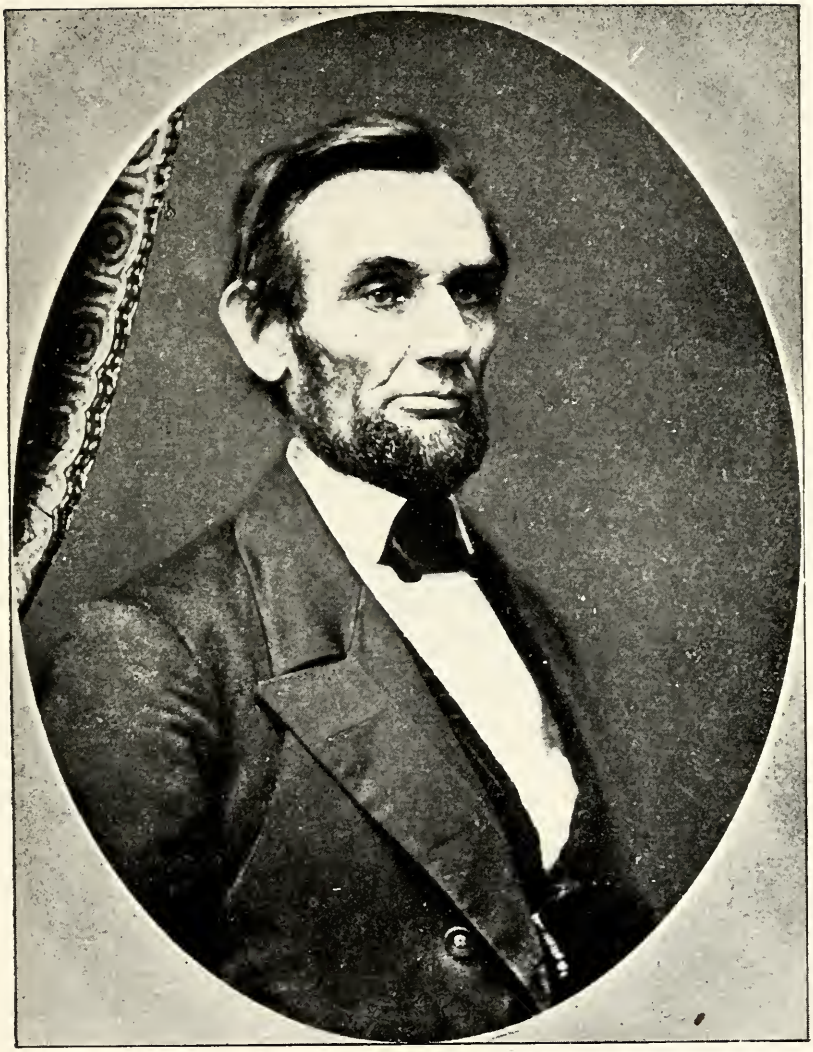
Through all the disastrous days and years of the long conflict, it was a gift of superlative greatness in Mr. Lincoln to know just how much and how little to say and do.—*Charles Hammond.*



Photo, 1861, *McNulta*, *Springfield*, *Ill.*

A. LINCOLN.

honor,—a responsibility which I could almost wish had fallen upon some one of the far more eminent men and experienced statesmen whose distinguished names were before the convention,—I shall, by your leave, consider more fully the resolutions of the convention, denominated the platform, and, without any unneccessary or unreasonable delay, respond to you, Mr. Chairman, in writing, not doubting that the platform will be found satisfactory, and the nomination gratefully accepted."

THE PLEDGE WITH COLD WATER.

(*Remarks to the Committee that notified him, at his home, May 1860, of his Nomination.*)

"Gentlemen, we must pledge our mutual health in this most healthy beverage which God has given man. It is the only beverage I have ever used or allowed in my family, and I cannot conscientiously depart from it on the present occasion. It is pure Adam's ale from the well."

1860

LINCOLN'S MODESTY.

(*Speech at the State Fair, Springfield, Ill., August 8, 1860.*)

At the conclusion of the following speech, Mr. Lincoln descended from the platform and with difficulty made his way through the vast throng who eagerly pressed around to take him by

1860

It now seems that any man, however endowed, like Abraham Lincoln, could not have so well filled the demand as president.—*E. O. Haven.*

the hand. By an adroit movement he escaped on horseback, while the crowd were besieging the carriage in which it was expected he would return to the city.

"It is my purpose since I have been placed in my present position to make no speeches. This assembly having been drawn together at the place of my residence, it appeared to be the wish of those constituting this vast assembly to see me, and it is certainly my wish to see all of you. I appear upon this ground here at this time only for the purpose of offering myself the best opportunity of seeing you and enabling you to see me.

"I confess with gratitude, be it understood, that I did not suppose my appearance among you would create the tumult which I now witness. I
1860 am gratified because it is a tribute which can be paid to no man as a man.

"It is the evidence that four years from this time you will give a like manifestation to the next man who is the representative of the truth on the questions that now agitate the public. And it is because you will then fight for this cause as you do now, or even with greater ardor than now, though I may be dead and gone."

It is certainly a wondrous Providence that, when republican institutions were about to be put to a fearful test, and the blaze of this gigantic strife was to attract the eyes of the world, and the vital powers of free government were to be illustrated, such a man as Lincoln should have been elevated to the gaze of mankind.—*S. C. Baldridge.*

"I SEE THE STORM COMING — WITH GOD'S HELP I SHALL NOT FAIL."

(*A quiet talk in the State House, Springfield, Ill., during the campaign of 1860.*)

"I know there is a God, and that He hates injustice and slavery. I see the storm coming, and I know that His hand is in it. If He has a place and work for me,—and I think He has,—I believe I am ready. 1860

"I am nothing, but truth is everything. I know I am right because I know that liberty is right, for Christ teaches it, and Christ is God.

"I have told them that 'a house divided against itself cannot stand,' and Christ and reason say the same; and they will find it so. Douglas don't care whether slavery is voted up or voted down, but God cares, and humanity cares, and I care; and with God's help I shall not fail.

"I may not see the end; but it will come, and I shall be vindicated; and these men will find that they have not read their Bibles aright."

"ALL AMERICAN CITIZENS ARE BROTHERS."

(*Rejoicing over the November election, Springfield, Ill., November 20, 1860, at a political meeting.*)

"I rejoice with you in the success which has so far attended the Republican cause, yet in all our rejoicing let us neither express nor cherish any hard

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The greatest man of his age.—*A. E. Burnside.*

feelings toward any citizen who by his vote differed
1860 with us. Let us at all times remember
that all American citizens are brothers of a common country, and should dwell together in the bonds of fraternal feeling."

THE PEOPLE DO WELL IF WELL DONE BY.

(*Speech at Bloomington, Ill., en route to Chicago, November 21, 1860.*)

"I am glad to meet you, after a longer separation than has been common between you and me. I
1860 thank you for the good report you made of
the election in old McLean. The people of the country have again fixed up their affairs for a constitutional period of time.

"By the way, I think very much of the people, as an old friend said he thought of a woman. He said when he lost his wife, who had been a great help to him in his business, he thought he was ruined—that he could never find another to fill her place. At length, however, he married another, who he found did quite as well as the first, and that his opinion now was that any woman would do well who was well done by.

"So I think of the whole people of the nation—

It is hard to say what more Lincoln, *living*, might have consecrated to his country, but God ordained that, by his *death*, every doubt in regard to the future of this nation should be swept away.—*Erskine N. White.*

LINCOLN HOMESTEAD, SPRINGFIELD, ILL. (OCCUPIED FROM 1844 TO 1861.)

they will ever do well if well done by. We will try
1860 to do well by them in all parts of the country, North and South, with entire confidence that all will be well with all of us."

HIS "EARLY HISTORY."

(*Reply to a gentleman who asked for a sketch of his life.*)

"My early history is perfectly characterized by a
1861 single line of Gray's 'Elegy':

"'The short and simple annals of the poor.'"

LAST VISIT TO HIS LAW OFFICE.

(*Conversation with his law partner, Wm. H. Herndon, before leaving for Washington, 1861.*)

"I love the people here, Billy, and owe them all
1861 that I am. If God spares my life to the end, I shall come back among you and spend the remnant of my days."

FAREWELL ADDRESS TO HIS NEIGHBORS.

(*When leaving Springfield for Washington, February 11, 1861.*)

"My friends, no one not in my position can appreciate the sadness I feel at this parting. To this
1861 people I owe all that I am. Here I have lived more than a quarter of a century.

I yield to no one in veneration to his memory, or admiration for his grand qualities of head and heart.—*Levi P. Morton.*

Here my children were born, and here one of them lies buried.

"I know not how soon I shall see you again. A duty devolves upon me which is greater, perhaps, than that which has devolved upon any other man since the days of Washington. He never would have succeeded except for the aid of divine Providence, upon which he at all time relied.

"I feel that I cannot succeed without the same divine aid which sustained him; and on the same Almighty Being I place my reliance for support, and I hope you, my friends, will pray that I may receive the divine assistance, without which I cannot succeed, but with which success is certain. Again, I bid you all an affectionate farewell."

"BEHIND THE CLOUD THE SUN IS STILL SHINING."

(*Speech at Tolono, Ill., February 11, 1861.*)

"I am leaving you on an errand of national importance, attended, as you are aware, with considera-
1861 ble difficulties. Let us believe, as some poet has expressed it, 'Behind the cloud the sun is still shining.'"

We brought him from westward because he was just;
We made him our chieftain, we gave him our trust;
Serene in the midst of the tumult he stood,
And we learn that 'tis greatest of all to be good.

—*Martha Perry Lowe.*

"PRESERVE THE UNION AND LIBERTY."

(In response to an address of welcome by Governor O. P. Morton, Indianapolis, February 11, 1861.)

"In all trying positions in which I shall be placed, and, doubtless, I shall be placed in many such, my reliance will be placed upon you
1861 and the people of the United States; and I wish you to remember, now and forever, that it is your business, and not mine; that if the union of these States, and the liberties of this people, shall be lost, it is but little to any one man of fifty-two years of age, but a great deal to the thirty millions of people who inhabit these United States, and to their posterity in all coming time.

"It is your business to rise up and preserve the Union and liberty for yourselves, and not for me."

THE PEOPLE'S POWER AS ETERNAL AS THE PRINCIPLE OF LIBERTY.

(Speech at Lawrenceburg, Ind., February 12, 1861.)

"The power intrusted to me shall be exercised as perfectly to protect the rights of your neighbors across the river, as to protect yours on this
1861 side. I know no difference in the protection of constitutional rights on either side of the river.

An ardent lover of his whole country, hating no one, desiring to punish no one, yearning to see the Union restored, and the old good will and good humor return to bless the land.—*Albert Pike.*

"If, in my brief term of public office, I shall be wicked or foolish, if you remain right and true and honest, you cannot be betrayed. My power is temporary and fleeting; yours is as eternal as the principle of liberty.

"Cultivate and protect that sentiment, and your ambitious leaders will be reduced to the position of servants instead of masters."

RESPONSE TO AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM MAYOR BISHOP.

(*Speech at the Burnet House, Cincinnati, February 12, 1861.*)

"I have spoken but once before this in Cincinnati. That was a year previous to the late presidential election. On that occasion, in a playful manner, but with sincere words, I addressed much of what I said to the Kentuckians. I then said, We mean to remember that you are as good as we—that there is no difference between us, other than the difference of circumstances. We mean to recognize and bear in mind always that you have as good hearts in your bosoms as other people, or as good as we claim to have, and treat you accordingly.

1861

"Fellow-citizens of Kentucky, friends, brethren,—may I call you such?—in my new position I see no more occasion and feel no inclination to retract a

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The name of Abraham Lincoln will shine with ever-increasing luster, as the result of his public life and services shall be more clearly manifested.—*Henry S. Frieze.*

word of this. If it shall not be made good, be assured that the fault shall not be mine."

LOOKS TO GOD AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR SUPPORT.

(*Address to the Ohio Legislature, Columbus, February 13, 1861.*)

"It is true, as has been said by the President of the Senate, that very great responsibility rests upon
1861 me in the position to which the votes of the American people have called me. I am deeply sensible of that weighty responsibility. I cannot but know, what you all know, that without a name—perhaps without a reason why I should have a name—there has fallen upon me a task such as did not rest upon the Father of his Country.

"And, so feeling, I cannot but turn and look back for the support without which it will be impossible for me to perform that great task. I turn, then, and look to the American people, and to that God who has never forsaken them."

"I SHALL VERY SOON PASS AWAY FROM YOU."

(*Address at Columbus, O., from the Capitol steps, February 13, 1861.*)

"I am doubly thankful that you have appeared here to give me this greeting. It is not much to
1861 me, for I shall very soon pass away from you; but we have a large country and a

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The typical American, pure and simple.—*Asa Gray.*

large future before us, and the manifestations of good will toward the government, and affection for the Union, which you may exhibit, are of immense value to you and your posterity forever."

THE MAJORITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE MUST RULE.

(*Speech at the depot, Steubenville, O., February 14, 1861.*)

"I fear that great confidence in my abilities is unfounded. The place I am about to assume is encompassed by vast difficulties. As I am, nothing
1861 shall be wanting on my part. Unless sustained by the American people and God, I cannot hope to be successful. I believe the devotion to the Constitution is equally great on both sides of the river; it is only the different understandings of it. The only dispute is, what are their rights?

"If the majority should not rule, who should be the judge? When such a judge is found we must be all bound by his decision. That judge is the majority of the American people; if not, then the minority must control. Would that be right, just, or generous? Assuredly not.

"If a wrong policy is adopted, the opportunity to condemn it would occur in four years; then I can be turned out, and a better man, with better views, put in my place."

Some men at his very side chided him for *slowness*, but it did not quicken his step, and others, equally near to him in influence, rebuked him for hastiness, but it availed nothing to check his onward progress.—*Henry Darling.*

"A JUST AND EQUITABLE TARIFF."

(*Address at Pittsburg, Pa., February 15, 1861.*)

"According to my political education, I am inclined to believe that the people in the various portions of the country should have their own views carried out through their representatives in Congress; that consideration of the tariff bill should not be postponed until the next session of the National Legislature.

1861

"No subject should engage your representatives more closely than that of the tariff. If I have any recommendation to make, it will be that every man who is called upon to serve the people, in a representative capacity, should study the whole subject thoroughly, as I intend to do myself, looking to all the varied interests of the common country, so that, when the time for action arrives, adequate protection shall be extended to the coal and iron of Pennsylvania and the corn of Illinois.

"Permit me to express the hope that the important subject may receive such consideration at the hands of your representatives that the interests of no part of the country may be overlooked, but that all sections may share in the common benefit of a just and equitable tariff."

His name, reaching down through the age of time,
Will still through the age of eternity shine—
Like a star, sailing on through the depths of the blue,
On whose brightness we gaze every evening anew.

—*B. F. Taylor.*

RESPONSE TO AN ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

(*Cleveland O., February 15, 1861.*)

"In a community like this, whose appearances—I may say whose very clothes, whose well-built houses, whose numerous schools, and all other evidences before me—testify to their intelligence, I am convinced that the cause of liberty and the Union can never be in danger."

1861

A HEART TRUE TO THE WORK.

(*Speech at Buffalo, N. Y., February 16, 1861.*)

"Your worthy mayor has thought fit to express the hope that I may be able to relieve the country from the present, or I should say the threatened, difficulties. I am sure I bring a heart true to the work.

1861

"For the ability to perform it, I trust in that Supreme Being who has never forsaken this favored land, through the instrumentality of this great and intelligent people. Without that assistance I should surely fail; with it I cannot fail."

Possessing the simplicity of a child and the tenderness of a woman, he combined in his make-up all the sterner qualities of a perfect man. A close observer of men, measures, and events, and to a discriminating mind that led to a correct judgment, was added a conscientiousness of the right, and a moral courage to do it, that enabled him to execute his honest convictions.—*F. E. Spinner.*

THE HUMBLEST OF ALL THE PRESIDENTS.

(*Speech to the Legislature, Albany, N. Y., February 18, 1861.*)

"It is true that, while I hold myself, without mock modesty, the humblest of all the individuals who have ever been elected President of the
1861 United States, I yet have a more difficult task to perform than any one of them has ever encountered.

"You have here generously tendered me the support, the united support, of the great Empire State. For this, in behalf of the nation; in behalf of the present and future of the nation; in behalf of the cause of civil liberty in all time to come, I most gratefully thank you.

"I do not propose now to enter upon any expressions as to the particular line of policy to be adopted with reference to the difficulties that stand before us in the opening of the incoming administration.

"I deem that it is just to the country, to myself, to you, that I should see everything, hear everything, and have every light that can possibly be brought within my reach to aid me before I shall speak officially, in order that, when I do speak, I may have the best possible means of taking correct and true grounds.

"I still have confidence that the Almighty Ruler

He had the heart of a child and the intellect of a philosopher. A patriot without guile, a politician without cunning or selfishness, a statesman of practical sense rather than fine-spun theory.—*Andrew Shuman.*

of the Universe, through the instrumentality of this great and intelligent people, can, and will, bring us through this difficulty, as He has heretofore brought us through all preceding difficulties of the country."

WITH HELP, HE WILL CARRY THE SHIP OF STATE THROUGH THE STORM.

(*Response to an address of welcome by the Mayor of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., February 19, 1861.*)

"I am not sure—I do not pretend to be sure—that in the selection of the individual who has been elected this term, the wisest choice has been made. I fear it has not. In the purposes and in the principles that have been sustained, I have been the instrument selected to carry forward the affairs of this government. I can rely upon you, and upon the people of the country; and with their sustaining hand, I think that even I shall not fail in carrying the Ship of State through the storm."

1861

STAND BY THE UNION.

(*Reply to an address of welcome by the Mayor of New York City, February 20, 1861.*)

"There is nothing that could ever bring me to willingly consent to the destruction of this Union, under which not only the great commercial City of New York, but the whole country,

1861

He was the most perfect ruler of man the world has ever seen.—*Edwin M. Stanton.*

acquired its greatness, except it be the purpose for which the Union itself was formed.

"I understand the ship to be made for the carrying and the preservation of the cargo, and so long as the ship can be saved with the cargo, it should never be abandoned, unless there appears no possibility of its preservation, and it must cease to exist, except at the risk of throwing overboard both freight and passengers."

THE EARLY AND COMING STRUGGLE FOR LIBERTY.

(*Address in the Senate Chamber, Trenton, N. J., February 21, 1861.*)

"May I be pardoned, if, upon this occasion, I mention, that away back in my childhood—the earliest days of my being able to read—I got hold of a small book, such a one as few of the younger members have ever seen, 'Weems' Life of Washington'; I remember all the accounts there given of the battlefields and struggles for the liberties of the country, and none fixed themselves upon my imagination so deeply as the struggle here at Trenton. The crossing of the river, the contest with the Hessians, the great hardships endured at that time, all fixed themselves on my memory more than any single Revolutionary event; and you all know, for you have all been boys, how these early impressions last longer than any other.

1861

He has gone in the supreme summer of his renown. The index finger pointed to high noon on the dial of his fame.—*E. S. Atwood.*

"I recollect thinking then, boy even though I was, that there must have been something more than common that those men struggled for.

1861

I am exceedingly anxious that that thing which they struggled for—that something even more than National independence, that something that held out a great promise to all the people of the world for all time to come—I am exceedingly anxious that this Union, the Constitution, and the liberties of the people, shall be perpetuated in accordance with the original idea for which that struggle was made, and I shall be most happy, indeed, if I shall be an humble instrument in the hands of the Almighty, and of this, his most chosen people, for perpetuating the object of the great struggle."

NO ONE MORE DEVOTED TO PEACE.

(*Address in the Assembly Chamber, Trenton, N. J., February 21, 1861.*)

"The man does not live who is more devoted to peace than I am—none who would do more to preserve it. But it may be necessary to put

1861

the foot down firmly. And if I do my duty, and do right, you will sustain me, will you not? Received, as I am, by the members of the Legislature, the majority of whom do not agree with me in political sentiments, I trust that I may have their assistance in piloting the Ship of State through this

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I believe, in all the annals of our race, Abraham Lincoln is the finest example of an unknown man rising from obscurity and ascending to the loftiest heights of human grandeur.—*James Speed.*

voyage, surrounded by perils as it is; for if it should suffer shipwreck now, there will be no pilot ever needed for another voyage."

LIBERTY FOR ALL FUTURE TIME.

(*Reply to an Address of Welcome, Independence Hall, Philadelphia, February 22, 1861.*)

"I am filled with deep emotion at finding myself standing here, in this place, where were collected
1861 the wisdom, the patriotism, the devotion to principle, from which sprang the institutions under which we live. You have kindly suggested to me that in my hands is the task of restoring peace to the present distracted condition of the country. I can say in return, sir, that all the political sentiments I entertain have been drawn, so far as I have been able to draw them, from the sentiments which originated and were given to the world from this hall.

"I have never had a feeling, politically, that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence. I have often pondered over the dangers which were incurred by the men who assembled here, and framed and adopted that Declaration of Independence. I have pondered over the toils that were endured by the officers and soldiers of the army who achieved that Independence.

His strong common sense, undaunted patriotism, and wise statesmanship have left an impress on our institutions which will never be effaced so long as this is freedom's throne.—*W. O. Bradley.*

"I have often inquired of myself what great principle or idea it was that kept this Confederacy so long together. It was not the mere
1861 matter of the separation of the colonies from the motherland, but that sentiment in the Declaration of Independence which gave liberty, not alone to the people of this country, but, I hope, to the world for all future time.

"It was that which you promise, that in due time the weight would be lifted from the shoulders of all men. This is the sentiment embodied in the Declaration of Independence.

"Now, my friends, can this country be saved upon this basis? If it can, I will consider myself one of the happiest men in the world if I can help to save it. If it cannot be saved upon that principle, it will be truly awful. But if this country cannot be saved without giving up that principle, I was about to say I would rather be assassinated on this spot than surrender it."

"ADD STAR UPON STAR."

(*Remarks when he raised a new flag over Independence Hall, Philadelphia, February 22, 1861.*)

"It is on such an occasion as this that we can reason together—reaffirm our devotion to the coun-
try and the principles of the Declaration of
1861 Independence. Let us make up our mind that when we do put a new star upon our banner,

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It is my humble judgment that in all the positions the great crisis forced him into, he was a perfect fit.—*J. M. Bailey.*

it shall be a fixed one, never to be dimmed by the horrors of war, but brightened by the contentment and prosperity of peace.

"Let us go on to extend the area of our usefulness, add star upon star; until their light shall shine upon five hundred millions of a free and happy people."

"THE FLAG MAY STILL BE KEPT FLAUNTING GLORIOUSLY."

(*Address to the Legislature, Harrisburg, February 22, 1861.*)

"I have already gone through one exceedingly interesting scene this morning, in the ceremonies at Philadelphia. I was for the first time allowed the privilege of standing in Old Independence Hall, to have a few words addressed to me there, and opening up to me an opportunity of expressing, with much regret, that I had not more time to express something of my own feelings excited by that occasion, somewhat to harmonize and give shape to the feelings that had been really the feelings of my whole life.

1861

"Besides this, my friends there had provided a magnificent flag of the country. They had arranged it so that I was given the honor of raising it to the head of its staff. And when it went up I was pleased that it went up to its place by the strength of my own feeble arm. When, according to the

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His sense of humor was as logical as his mind was clear and his heart generous.—*S. S. Cox.*

arrangement, the cord was pulled, and it floated gloriously to the wind without an accident, in the light, glowing sunshine of the morning, I could not help hoping that there was in the entire success of that beautiful ceremony at least something of an omen of what is to come. How could I help feeling then, as I often have felt, in the whole of that proceeding I was a very humble instrument?

"I had not provided the flag; I had not made the arrangements for elevating it to its place. I had applied but a very small portion of my feeble strength in raising it. In the whole transaction I was in the hands of the people who had arranged it. And if I can have the same generous co-operation of the people of the nation, I think the flag of our country may still be kept flaunting gloriously."

ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON.

Mr. Lincoln arrived in Washington, February 23, 1861. On the 27th he responded to an address of welcome by the mayor, James G. Berrett, in Willard's Hotel, as follows:

"I will take this occasion to say that I think very much of the ill-feeling that has existed, and still exists, between the people in the sections from whence I came and the people here, is dependent upon a misunderstanding of one another. I therefore avail myself of this opportunity to assure you, Mr. Mayor, and all the gentle-

1861

The purity of his patriotism inspired him with the wisdom of a statesman and the courage of a martyr.—*Stanley Matthews.*

men present, that I have not now, and never have had, any other than as kindly feelings toward you as the people of my own section. I have not now, and never have had, any disposition to treat you in any respect otherwise than as my own neighbors. I have not now any purpose to withhold from you any of the benefits of the Constitution, under any circumstances, that I would not feel myself constrained to withhold from my neighbors; and I hope, in a word, that when we shall become better acquainted, and I say it with great confidence, we shall like each other the more."

HIS PECULIAR POSITION AT THE CAPITAL.

(*An address to the Republican Association at Willard's Hotel, February 28, 1861.*)

"I have reached the City of Washington under circumstances considerably differing from those under which any other man has ever reached it. I am here for the purpose of taking an official position among the people, almost all of whom were politically opposed to me, and are yet opposed to me, as I suppose. I hope that, if things shall go along as prosperously as I believe we all desire they may, I may have it in my power to remove something of this misunderstanding."

1861

President Lincoln's Gettysburg address was the high-water mark of American oratory.—*Thos. Wentworth Higginson.*

FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS, MARCH 4, 1861.

"Apprehension seems to exist among the people of the Southern States, that by the occasion of a Republican administration, their property and their peace and personal security are to be endangered. There has never been any reasonable cause for such apprehension. Indeed, the most ample evidence to the contrary has all the while existed, and been open to their inspection. It is found in nearly all the published speeches of him who now addresses you.

1861

"I do but quote from one of those speeches, when I declared that 'I have no purpose, directly or indirectly, to interfere with the institution of slavery, in the States where it exists.'

"I believe I have no lawful right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so. Those who nominated and elected me did so with the full knowledge that I had made this and many similar declarations, and had never recanted them. I now reiterate these sentiments, and in doing so, I only press upon the public attention the most conclusive evidence of which the case is susceptible, that the property, peace, and security of no section are to be in any wise endangered by the now incoming administration.

Of all the rulers of the earth, no other one has ever been borne to the tomb amid such extensive preparations to do him honor. His funeral procession may be said to have been more than one thousand miles long.—*W. R. Gordon.*

Photos by Coe, Washington.

U. S. CAPITOL AND WHITE HOUSE.

I take the official oath to-day with no mental reservations, and with no purpose to construe the Constitution or laws by any hypercritical rules; and, while I do not choose now to specify particular acts of Congress as proper to be enforced, I do suggest that it will be much safer for all, both in official and private stations, to conform to and abide by all those acts which stand unrepealed, than to violate any of them, trusting to find impunity in having them held to be unconstitutional.

"It is seventy-two years since the first inauguration of a president under our national constitution. During that period, fifteen different and very distinguished citizens have in succession administered the executive branch of the government. They have conducted it through many perils, and generally with great success. Yet, with this scope for precedent, I now enter upon the same task, for the brief constitutional term of four years, under great and peculiar difficulties.

1861

"I hold, that in the contemplation of universal law and the Constitution, the union of these States is perpetual. Perpetuity is implied, if not expressed, in the fundamental law of all national governments. It is safe to assert that no government proper ever had a provision in its organic law for its own termination. Continue to execute all the express provisions of our national Constitution, and the Union will endure forever.

The Cooper Institute speech of Mr. Lincoln is one of the purest specimens of composition in Saxon words to be found in the English language.—*Leonard Bacon.*

"To those, however, who really love the Union, may I not speak? Before entering upon so grave a matter as the destruction of our national fabric, with all its benefits, its memories, and its hopes, would it not be well to ascertain why we do it? Will you hazard so desperate a step while any portion of the ills you fly from have no real existence? Will you, while the certain ills you fly to are greater than all the real ones you fly from? Will you risk the commission of so fearful a mistake?

1861

"All profess to be content in the Union if all constitutional rights can be maintained. Is it true, then, that any right plainly written in the Constitution has been denied? I think not. Happily, the human mind is so constituted that no party can reach to the audacity of doing this.

"All the vital rights of minorities and of individuals are so plainly assured to them by affirmations and negations, guarantees and prohibitions, in the Constitution, that controversies never arise concerning them. But no organic law can ever be framed with a provision specifically applicable to every question which may occur in practical administration. No foresight can anticipate, nor any document of reasonable length contain, express provision for all possible questions.

"Shall fugitives from labor be surrendered by

The common people, from whom he sprang, and for whom he labored, and with whom he was identified, and who placed him in power, will guard his name with sleepless vigilance, and will point their posterity to his grave as the shrine or American freedom.—*B. F. Bradford.*

National or by State authority? The Constitution
1861 does not expressly say. Must Congress protect slavery in the Territories? The Constitution does not expressly say.

"From questions of this class spring all our constitutional controversies, and we divide upon them into majorities and minorities. If the minority will not acquiesce, the majority must, or the government must cease. There is no alternative for continuing the government but acquiescence on the one side or the other.

"If the minority will secede rather than acquiesce, they make a precedent which, in turn, will ruin and divide them; for a minority of their own will secede from them whenever a majority refuses to be controlled by such a minority. For instance, why should not any portion of a new confederacy, a year or two hence, arbitrarily secede again, precisely as portions of the present Union now claim to secede from it?

"All who cherish disunion sentiments are now being educated to the exact temper of doing this. Is there such perfect identity of interest among the States to compose a new union as to produce harmony only, and prevent renewed secession? Plainly, the central idea of secession is the essence of anarchy.

"Physically speaking, we cannot separate; we

While the ship of state was buffeting the fiercest storms, he stood calm as Columbus, disregarding the clamors of the discontented, and, with compass in hand, measured with steady glance wind and sail, and steered toward the peaceful haven of union and freedom.—*Hugo Krebs.*

cannot move our respective sections from each other, nor build an impassable wall between them. A husband and wife may be divorced, and go out of the presence and beyond the reach of each other; but the different parts of our country cannot do this. They cannot but remain face to face; and intercourse, either amicable or hostile, must continue between them.

"Is it possible, then, to make that intercourse more advantageous or more satisfactory after separation than before? Suppose you go to war, you cannot fight always; and when, after much loss on both sides, and no gain on either, you cease fighting, the identical questions as to terms of intercourse are again upon you.

"Why should there not be a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people? Is there any better or equal hope in the world? In our present differences, is either party without faith of being in the right? If the Almighty Ruler of Nations, with His eternal truth and justice, be on your side of the North, or on your side of the South, that truth and that justice will surely prevail by the judgment of this great tribunal—the American people.

1861

"My countrymen, one and all, think calmly and well upon this whole subject. Nothing valuable can be lost by taking time. If there be an object to hurry any of you, in hot haste, to a step which you would never take deliberately, that

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He was not an orator, and yet where in the English language can be found eloquence of higher tone or more magnetic power than his Gettysburg speech?—*Hugh McCullough.*

object will be frustrated by taking time; but no good object can be frustrated by it. Such of you as are now dissatisfied still have the old Constitution unimpaired, and, on the sensitive point, the laws of your own framing under it; while the new administration will have no immediate power, if it would, to change it.

"If it were admitted that you who are dissatisfied hold the right side in the dispute, there is still no single reason for precipitate action. Intelligence, patriotism, Christianity, and a firm reliance on Him who has never yet forsaken this favored land, are still competent to adjust, in the best way, all our present difficulties.

"In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow-countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war.

1861

"The government will not assail you; you can have no conflict without being yourselves the aggressors.

"You can have no oath registered in heaven to destroy the government; while I shall have the most solemn one to 'preserve, protect, and defend' it.

"I am loath to close. We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break, our bonds of affection.

"The mystic chords of memory, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living

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Abraham Lincoln will be honored by a grateful posterity as the directing and representative mind in the pregnant epoch of history.—*James W. Patterson.*

heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature."

"ALL HONOR TO JEFFERSON."

(*Letter, April 6, 1861, replying to an invitation from the Republicans of Boston to attend a festival in honor of the anniversary of Jefferson's birthday.*)

"All honor to Jefferson; to a man who, in the concrete pressure of a struggle for national inde-
1861 pendence by a single people, had the coolness, forecast, and capacity to introduce into a merely revolutionary document an abstract truth, applicable to all men and all times, and so to embalm it there, that to-day and in all coming days it shall be a rebuke and a stumbling-block to the harbingers of reappearing tyranny and oppression!"

PRESERVING THE PEACE OF MARYLAND.

(*Message to the Governor, April 20, 1861.*)

"I desire to consult with you and the mayor of
1861 Baltimore relative to preserving the peace of Maryland. Please come immediately."

A legion of politicians might beset him and urge him to effort, but having heard them all, he would take counsel of his conscience, and perhaps still remain inactive. He would do nothing, unless he could see clearly what it was right to do.—*Albert S. Hunt.*

"HAD NO MORAL RIGHT TO SHRINK."

(*First annual message to the extra session of Congress, July 4, 1861.*)

"As a private citizen the Executive could not have consented that these institutions shall perish; much less could he in betrayal of so vast and so sacred a trust as these free people have confided to him. He felt that he had no moral right to shrink, or even to count the chances of his own life, in what might follow.

1861

"In full view of his great responsibility he has so far done what he has deemed his duty. You will now, according to your own judgment, perform yours. He sincerely hopes that your views and your action may so accord with his, as to assure all faithful citizens who have been disturbed in their rights, of a certain and speedy restoration of them under the Constitution and the laws. And having thus chosen our course, without guile and with pure purpose, let us renew our trust in God, and go forward without fear and with manly hearts."

RECRUITING NORTH CAROLINIANS.

(*Letter to Lieutenant-General Winfield Scott, September 16, 1861.*)

"Since conversing with you I have concluded to request you to frame an order for recruiting North Carolinians at Fort Hatteras. I suggest it be so framed as for us to accept a smaller

1861

Too much cannot be done to preserve the memory and deepen the moral impression of a man like Lincoln.—*O. B. Frothingham.*

force—even a company—if we cannot get a regiment or more. What is necessary to now say about officers, you will judge. Governor Seward says he has a nephew (Clarence A. Seward, I believe) who would be willing to go and play colonel and assist in raising the force; still, it is to be considered whether the North Carolinians will not prefer officers of their own. I should expect they would."

LETTER TO MAJOR-GENERAL DAVID HUNTER, OCTOBER 24, 1861.

"I propose to offer you a few suggestions. Knowing how hazardous it is to bind down a distant commander in the field to specific lines and operations, as so much always depends on a knowledge of locations and passing events, it is intended, therefore, to leave considerable margin for the exercise of your judgment and discretion."

1861

LABOR THE SUPERIOR OF CAPITAL.

(*Message to Congress, December 3, 1861.*)

"Labor is prior to and independent of capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the superior of capital, and

1861

He was sacrificed, but his martyrdom gave emphasis to the living principles embodied in our American Constitution, as the lifting up of Christ elevated the principles it was his mission to establish.—*Richard Smith.*

deserves much the higher consideration. Capital has its rights, which are as worthy of protection as any rights, nor is it denied that there is, and probably always will be, a relation between labor and capital, producing mutual benefits.

"The prudent, penniless beginner in the world labors for wages a while, saves a surplus with which to buy tools or land for himself, then labors on his own account another while, and at length hires another new beginner to help him.

"This is the just, and generous, and prosperous system, which opens the way to all, gives hope to all, and consequent energy, and progress, and improvement of condition to all. No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty—none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned.

"Let them beware of surrendering a political power which they already possess, and which, if surrendered, will surely be used to close the door of advancement against such as they, and to fix new disabilities and burdens upon them, till all of liberty shall be lost.

"The struggle of to-day is not altogether for to-day; it is for a vast future also. With a reliance on Providence, all the more firm and earnest, let us proceed in the great task which events have devolved upon us."

1861

Born of the people, well he knew to grasp
The wants and wishes of the weak and small;
Therefore we hold him with no shadowy clasp.
Therefore his name is household to us all.

—*Alice Cary.*

LETTER TO GENERAL DON CARLOS BUELL, JANUARY 6, 1862.

"Your dispatch of yesterday has been received, and it disappoints and distresses me. I am not competent to criticise your views, and therefore what I offer is merely in justification of myself. Of the two, I would rather have a point on the railroad south of Cumberland Gap than Nashville; first, because it cuts a great artery of the enemy's communication, which Nashville does not; and secondly, because it is in the midst of loyal people, who would rally around it, while Nashville is not. I do not intend this to be an order in any sense, but merely, as intimated before, to show you the grounds of my anxiety."

1862

LETTER TO GENERAL GEORGE B. McCLELLAN, APRIL 9, 1862.

"I beg to assure you that I have never written or spoken to you in greater kindness of feeling than now, nor with a fuller purpose to sustain you so far as in my most anxious judgment I consistently can."

1862

Grandly and alone he walked his way through this life, and the world had no honors, no emoluments, no reproaches, no shames, no punishments which he could not have borne without swerving or bias. —*Jane Grey Swissholm.*

BILL ABOLISHING SLAVERY IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

(*Message to Congress, April 16, 1862, approving the bill.*)

"I have never doubted the constitutional authority of Congress to abolish slavery in this District; and I have ever desired to see the national capital freed from the institution in some satisfactory way."

1862

GRADUAL EMANCIPATION—COMPENSATION FOR THE SLAVES.

(*Conference with the members of Congress from the border slave States, July 12, 1862.*)

"If the war continues long, as it must if the object be not sooner attained, the institution in your States will be extinguished by mere friction and abrasion—by the mere incidents of the war. It will be gone, and you will have nothing valuable in lieu of it. Much of its value is gone already.

1862

"How much better for you and for your people to take the step which at once shortens the war, and secures substantial compensation for that which is sure to be wholly lost in any other event!

For my single self, I have for a quarter of a century regarded Mr. Lincoln as the finest lawyer I ever knew, entitling him to be presented to the profession as a model well worthy of the closest imitation.—*Sidney Breece.*

"How much better to thus save the money which else we sink forever in the war!

"How much better to do it while we can, lest the war ere long renders us pecuniarily unable to do it!

"How much better for you, as seller, and the nation, as buyer, to sell out and buy out that without which the war could never have been, than to sink both the thing to be sold and the price of it in cutting one another's throats! I do not speak of emancipation at once, but of a decision at once to emancipate gradually."

"DEPENDENCE UPON THE FAVOR OF GOD."

(*Reply to a committee from the Lutheran General Synod, May 1, 1862.*)

"You all may recollect that in taking up the sword forced into our hands, this government appealed to the prayers of the pious and the good, and declared that it placed its whole dependence upon the favor of God. I now humbly and reverently, in your presence, reiterate the acknowledgment of that dependence, not doubting that if it shall please the divine Being who determines the destinies of nations, that this shall remain a united people, they will, humbly seeking the divine guidance, make their prolonged national

1862

Rough-hewn indeed, and unschooled in diplomatic phrase and usage, yet never losing sympathy with the people from whom he sprung, and so always able to speak and write the mind and heart of the people.—*Edwin A. Buckley.*

existence a source of new benefits to themselves and their successors, and to all classes and conditions of mankind."

"I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO DO MY DUTY."

(*Reply to a resolution of the East Baltimore Methodist Conference of 1862.*)

"These kind words of approval, coming from so numerous a body of intelligent Christian people, and so free from all suspicion of sinister motives, are
1862 indeed encouraging to me. By the help of an all-wise Providence, I shall endeavor to do my duty, and I shall expect the continuance of your prayers for a right solution of our national difficulties, and the restoration of our country to peace and prosperity."

"I SHALL DO NOTHING IN MALICE."

(*Letter to Gutberth Bullett of New Orleans, July 28, 1862.*)

"I am in no boastful mood. I shall not do more than I can, but shall do all I can to save the govern-
1862 ment; which is my sworn duty as well as my personal inclination. I shall do nothing in malice. What I deal with is too vast for malicious dealings."

As the ship in heavy seas feels the tremendous strain in every timber, and is strained in all her cordage, so did the President-elect realize, in anticipation, the possible perils of his position when leaving his peaceful home in the West.—*J. L. Janeway.*

DEFENDS THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

(*Remarks at a war meeting, Washington, August 6, 1862.*)

"General McClellan has sometimes asked for things that the Secretary of War did not give him. General McClellan is not to blame for asking what he wanted and needed, and the Secretary of War is not to blame for not giving when he had none to give. And I say here, as far as I know, the Secretary of War has withheld no one thing at any time in my power to give him. I have no accusation against him. I believe he is a brave and able man, and I stand here, as justice requires me to do, to take upon myself what has been charged on the Secretary of War, as withholding from him."

1862

"WILLING TO ACT THOUGH IT COSTS MY LIFE."

(*Reply to M. D. Conway, and a friend, who implored Mr. Lincoln to emancipate the slaves.*)

"We grow in this direction daily, and I am not without hope that some great thing is to be accomplished. When the hour comes for dealing with slavery, I trust I shall be willing to act though it costs my life; and, gentlemen, *lives will be lost.*"

1862

He will stand in the memory of the world among the most forbearing, kindly, and gentle, whose generosity toward the most bitter foes is without a parallel among successful rulers and conquerors.—*Warren Hathaway.*

"MY PARAMOUNT OBJECT IS TO SAVE THE UNION."

(*Reply to an editorial of complaint in the N. Y. Tribune, by Horace Greeley, August 19, 1862.*)

"My paramount object is to save the Union, and not either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could
1862 save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it. If I could save it by freeing all the slaves, I would do it; and if I could do it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that. What I do about slavery and the colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save this Union; and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union. I shall do less whenever I shall believe what I am doing hurts the cause, and I shall do more whenever I believe doing more will help the cause."

"WHATEVER APPEARS TO BE GOD'S WILL, I WILL DO IT."

(*Reply to a deputation from all religious denominations of Chicago, September 13, 1862.*)

"I hope it will not be irreverent for me to say that if it is probable that God would reveal His will
1862 to others on a point so connected with my duty, it might be supposed He would reveal

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His character and service to this country will stand as a monument long after the granite monuments erected to his memory have crumbled in the dust.—*Thomas A. Edison.*

it directly to me; for, unless I am more deceived in myself than I often am, it is my earnest desire to know the will of Providence in this matter. And if I can learn what it is I will do it.

"These are not, however, the days of miracles, and I suppose it will be granted that I am not to expect a direct revelation. I must study the plain physical facts of the case, ascertain what is possible, and learn what appears to be wise and right. Whatever appears to be God's will I will do it."

READING THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION TO HIS CABINET.

(*Remarks at the meeting, September 22, 1862.*)

"GENTLEMEN: I have, as you are aware, thought a great deal about the relation of this war to slavery, and you all remember that several weeks ago I read to you an order that I had prepared upon the subject, which, on account of objections made by some of you, was not issued. Ever since then my mind has been much occupied with this subject, and I have thought all along that the time for acting on it might probably come.

1862

"I think the time has come now; I wish it was a better time. I wish that we were in a better condition. The action of the army against the rebels has not been quite what I should have best liked,

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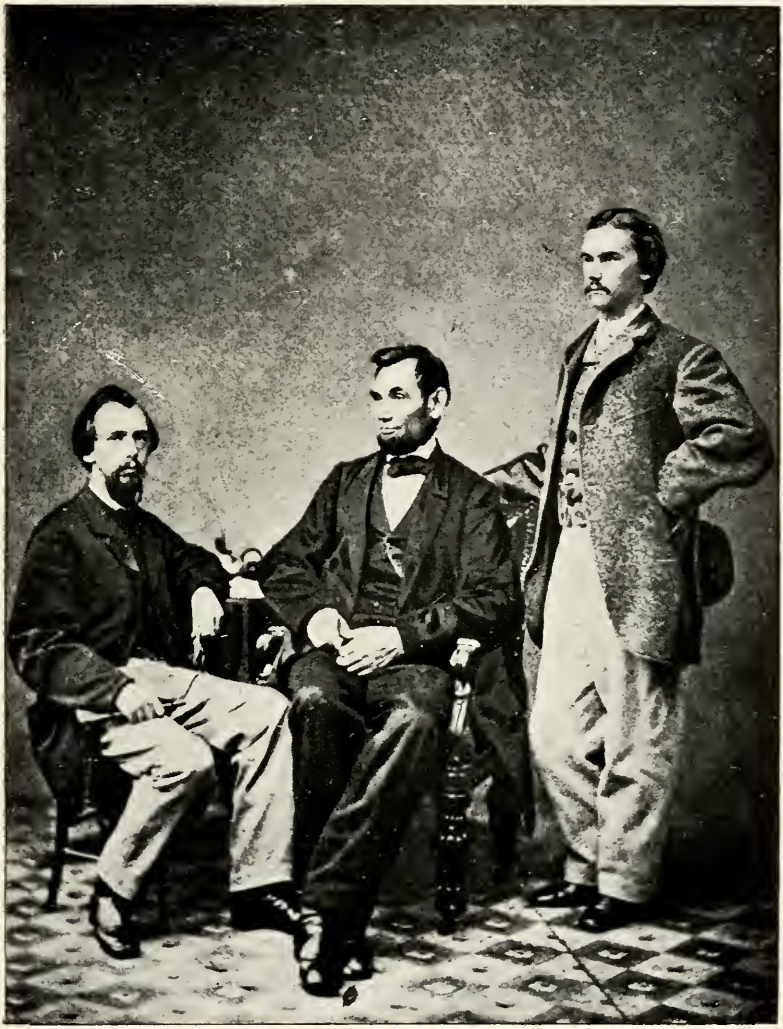
Not a sovereign in Europe, however trained from the cradle for state pomps, and however prompted by statesmen and courtiers, could have uttered himself more regally than did Lincoln at Gettysburg.—*Goldwin Smith.*



Photo, 1861, *Springfield, Ill.*

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND HIS PRIVATE SECRETARIES,
NICOLAY AND HAY.

but they have been driven out of Maryland, and Pennsylvania is no longer in danger of invasion.

"When the rebel army was at Frederick, I determined, as soon as it should be driven out of Maryland, to issue a proclamation of emancipation, such as I thought most likely to be useful. I said nothing to anyone, but I made a promise to myself and, hesitating a little, to my Maker.

"The rebel army is now driven out, and I am going to fulfill that promise. I have got you together to hear what I have written down. I do not wish your advice about the main matter, for that I have determined for myself. This I say without intending anything but respect for any one of you. But I already know the views of each on this question. They have been heretofore expressed, and I have considered them as thoroughly and carefully as I can. What I have written is that which my reflections have determined me to say. If there is anything in the expressions I use, or in any minor matter which any one of you think had best be changed, I shall be glad to receive your suggestions.

"One other observation I will make. I know very well that many others might, in this matter as in others, do better than I can; and if I was satisfied that the public confidence was more fully possessed by any one of them than by me, and knew of any constitutional way in which he could be put in my place, he should have it. I would gladly yield to

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Behold him, standing with hand reached out to feed the South with mercy and the North with charity, and the whole land with peace, when the Lord, who had sent him, called him, and his work was done.—*Phillips Brooks.*

him. But though I believe I have not so much of the confidence of the people as I had some time since, I do not know that, all things considered, any other person has more; and, however this may be, there is no way in which I can have any other man put where I am. I am here; I must do the best I can, and bear the responsibility of taking the course which I feel I ought to take."

PRELIMINARY PROCLAMATION OF EMANCIPATION.

(*Issued September 22, 1862.*)

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever, free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

1862

"That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the

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He did more to perpetuate the existence of free institutions than any man that has ever lived, and the debt mankind owes his memory can never be repaid.—*George Stoneman.*

people thereof respectively shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be in good faith represented in the Congress of the United States, by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall, in the absence of strong countervailing testimony, be deemed conclusive evidence that such State, and the people thereof, are not then in rebellion against the United States."

LETTER TO GENERAL GRANT, OCTOBER 8, 1862.

"I congratulate you and all concerned in your recent battles and victories. How does it all sum up? I especially regret the death of General Hackleman, and am very anxious to know the condition of General Oglesby, who is an intimate personal friend."

1862

LETTER TO THOMAS H. CLAY OF CINCINNATI, OCTOBER 8, 1862.

"I sincerely wish war was an easier and pleasanter business than it is, but it does not admit of holidays."

1862

There can be no correct history of this nation, as it has passed through this great struggle for existence, without the life of Abraham Lincoln.—*Wm. A. Buckingham,*

OBSERVANCE OF THE SABBATH DAY IN THE ARMY AND NAVY.

(*General Orders, November 15, 1862.*)

"The importance for man and beast of the prescribed weekly rest, the sacred rights of Christian soldiers and sailors, a becoming deference to the best sentiments of a Christian people, and a due regard for the divine will, demand that Sunday labor in the army and navy be reduced to the measure of strict necessity.

1862

"The discipline and character of the national forces should not suffer, nor the cause they defend be imperiled by the profanation of the day or name of the Most High. 'At this time of public distress'—adopting the words of Washington in 1776—'men may find enough to do in the service of God and their country without abandoning themselves to vice and immorality.'

"The first general order issued by the Father of his Country after the Declaration of Independence, indicates the spirit in which our institutions were founded and should ever be defended:

"'*The General hopes and trusts that every officer and man will endeavor to live and act as becomes a Christian soldier defending the dearest rights and liberties of his country.*'"

President Lincoln had a heart capable of the greatest sympathy and the keenest emotions for the carnage and destruction he saw going on in every direction.—*David D. Porter.*

"THE WAY IS PLAIN—THE WORLD WILL FOREVER APPLAUD."

(*Message to Congress, December 1, 1862.*)

"The civil war, which has so radically changed, for the moment, the occupation and habits of the American people, has necessarily disturbed the social conditions, and affected very deeply the prosperity of the nations with which we have carried on a commerce that has been steadily increasing throughout a period of half a century. It has, at the same time, excited political ambitions and apprehensions which have produced a profound agitation throughout the civilized world. In this unusual agitation we have foreborne from taking part in any controversy between foreign states, and between parties or factions in such states. We have attempted no propagandism, and acknowledged no revolution. But we have left to every nation the exclusive conduct and management of its own affairs.

1862

"A return to specie payments, however, at the earliest period compatible with due regard to all interests concerned, should ever be kept in view. Fluctuations in the value of currency are always injurious, and to reduce these fluctuations to the lowest possible point will always be a leading purpose in wise legislation. Convertibility, prompt and certain convertibility, into coin is generally

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His character was based upon truth, and, having been placed by fortune in the proper sphere of action, he showed he was a truly great man.—*Abram S. Hewitt.*

acknowledged to be the best and surest safeguard against them; and it is extremely doubtful whether a circulation of United States notes, payable in coin, and sufficiently large for the wants of the people, can be permanently useful and safely maintained.

"A nation may be said to consist of its territory, its people, and its laws. The territory is the only part which is of certain durability: 'one generation passeth away, and another generation cometh, but the earth abideth forever.' It is of the first importance to duly consider and estimate this ever-enduring part. That portion of the earth's surface which is owned and inhabited by the people of the United States is well adapted to be the home of one national family, and it is not well adapted for two or more. Its vast extent and its variety of climate and productions are of advantage in this age for one people, whatever they might have been in former ages. Steam, telegraphs, and intelligence have brought these to be an advantageous combination for one united people.

1862

"There is no line, straight or crooked, suitable for a national boundary, upon which to divide. Trace through, from east to west, upon the line between the free and slave country, and we shall find a little more than one-third of its length are rivers, easy to be crossed, and populated, or soon to be populated, thickly upon both sides; while nearly all its remaining length are merely sur-

Never before did man raise himself from utter obscurity to a place of such honorable and lasting fame, where he shall stand as long as men keep the record of the great and good.—*Henry E. Badger.*

veyors' lines, over which people may walk back and forth without any consciousness of their presence. No part of this line can be made any more difficult to pass by writing it down on paper or parchment as a national boundary.

"The fact of separation, if it comes, gives up, on the part of the seceding section, the fugitive slave clause, along with all other constitutional obligations upon the section seceded from, while I should expect no treaty stipulation would ever be made to take its place.

"Among the friends of the Union there is a great diversity of sentiment and of policy in regard to slavery and the African race amongst us. Some would perpetuate slavery; some would abolish it suddenly, and without compensation; some would abolish it gradually, and with compensation; some would remove the freed people from us, and some would retain them with us; and there are yet other minor diversities. Because of these diversities, we waste much strength among ourselves. By mutual concession we should harmonize and act together.

1862

"I do not forget the gravity which should characterize a paper addressed to the Congress of the Nation by the Chief Magistrate of the Nation. Nor do I forget that some of you are my seniors; nor that many of you have more experience than I in the conduct of public affairs. Yet I trust that, in view of the great responsibility resting upon me,

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We feel how grandly secure we were while the star, now hidden in higher splendors, held up with its unfailing influences the very structure and frame of the government.—*R. S. Storrs.*

you will perceive no want of respect to yourselves in any undue earnestness I may seem to display.

"We cannot escape history. We of this Congress and this administration will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance or insignificance can spare one or another of us. The fiery trial through which we pass will light us down in honor or dishonor to the latest generation.

1862

"We say that we are for the Union. The world will not forget that we say this. We know how to save the Union. The world knows we do know how to save it. We—even we here—hold the power and bear the responsibility.

"In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free—honorable alike in what we give and what we preserve.

"We shall nobly save or meanly lose the last hope of earth. Other means may succeed; this could not, cannot, fail.

"The way is plain, peaceful, generous, just—a way which, if followed, the world will forever applaud, and God must forever bless."

LETTER TO HON. FERNANDO WOOD OF NEW YORK, DECEMBER 12, 1862.

"If 'the Southern States would send representatives to the next Congress'—to be substantially the same as that 'the people of the Southern States would cease resistance, and would

1862

He touched the manacles of four millions of men and women, and in the twinkle of an eye they drop off forever.— *Wm. P. Frye.*

reinaugurate, submit to, and maintain the national authority within the limits of such States, under the Constitution of the United States,' I say that in such case the war would cease on the part of the United States; and that within a reasonable time, if 'a full and general amnesty' were necessary to such end, it would not be withheld."

TENDERS THE THANKS OF THE NATION.

(*Address to the Army of the Potomac, December 22, 1862.*)

"I have just read your commanding general's preliminary report of the battle of Fredericksburg.

1862

Although you were not successful, the attempt was not an error, nor the failure other than an accident. The courage with which you, in an open field, maintained the contest against an intrenched foe, and the consummate skill and success with which you crossed and recrossed the river, in face of the enemy, show that you possess all the qualities of a great army, which will yet give victory to the cause of the country and of popular government.

"Condoling with the mourners for the dead, and sympathizing with the severely wounded, I congratulate you that the number of both is comparatively so small. I tender to you, officers and soldiers, the thanks of the nation."

When history crystallizes, when the events of a century shall be recorded in a sentence, then will the administration of Lincoln be the epochal marks of his age.—*C. E. Pratt.*

"THE TIMES ARE DARK—THE MERCY OF GOD ALONE CAN SAVE US."

(*To Rev. Byron Sunderland, Washington, who called with friends during the last days of 1862.*)

"I hold myself, in my present position and with the authority vested in me, as an instrument of Providence. I have my own views and purposes. I have my convictions of duty, and my notions of what is right to be done. But I am conscious every moment that all I am and all I have is subject to the control of a Higher Power, and that Power can use me or not use me in any manner, and at any time, as in His wisdom and might may be pleasing to Him. These are simply with me the convictions and realities of great and vital truths, the power and demonstration of which I see now in the light of this our national struggle as I have never seen before.

1862

"God only knows the issue of this business. He has destroyed nations from the maps of history for their sins. Nevertheless, my hopes prevail generally above my fears for our Republic. The times are dark, the spirits of ruin are abroad in all their power, and the mercy of God alone can save us."

Let childhood drop the wreaths of May,
Fair woman place choice funeral flowers
Above his grandly coffined clay—
The palm is his, the cross is ours.

—*W. H. C. Hosmer.*

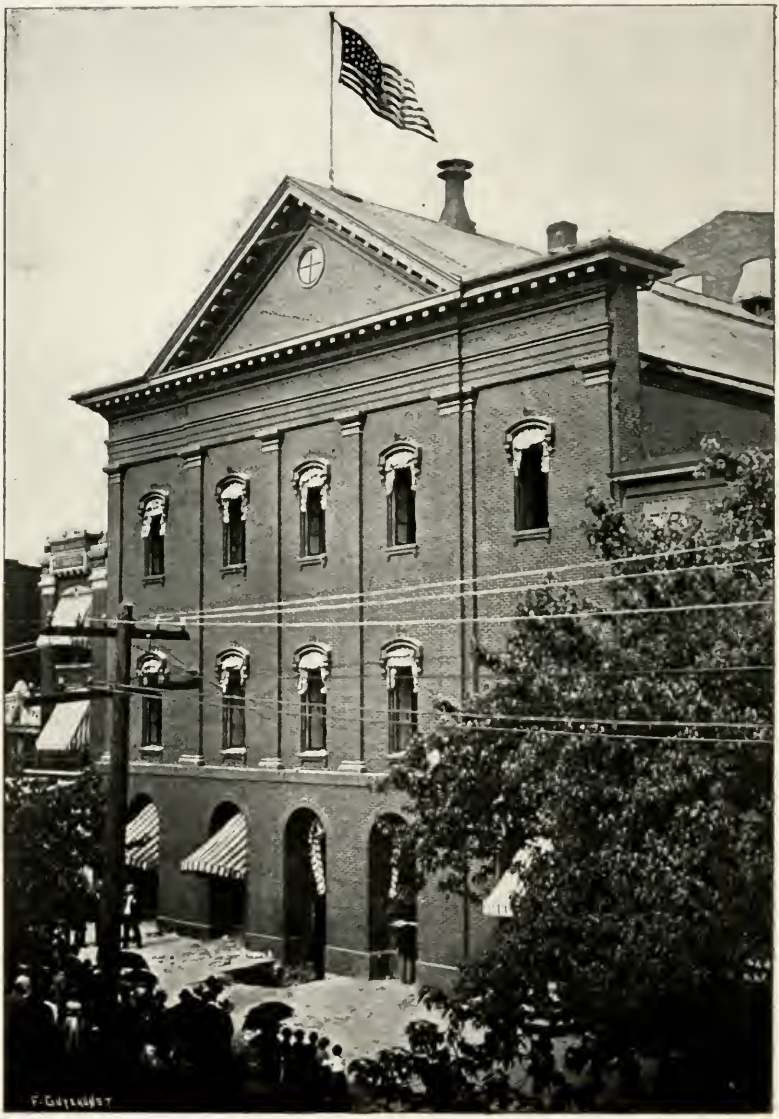

Photo by Coe, Washington.

FORD'S THEATER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

(*Issued January 1, 1863.*)

"*Now therefore*, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power vested in me as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, in a time of actual armed rebellion against the authority of the Government of the United States, as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said rebellion, do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do, publicly proclaimed for the full period of one hundred days from the date of the first above-mentioned order, designate as the States and parts of States therein the people whereof, respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

1863

"Arkansas, Texas, and Louisiana (except the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terrebonne, La Fourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also

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A nation free shall send thy name
Through coming ages down:
Thank God, though ours may be the cross,
Thine is the victor's crown!

—*Mrs. R. A. Cameron.*

the counties of Berkley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), which excepted parts are for the present left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued; and by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within designated States, or parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free, and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of the said persons; and I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages. And I further declare and make known that such persons, of suitable condition, will be received into the armed service of the United States, to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

"And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind, and the gracious favor of Almighty God."

Let the eminence to which he attained, the power he had over men, the almost divine sagacity with which he led them, be an encouragement to all men who believe in the possibility as well as the necessity of popular government in the coming ages of the world.—*Joseph R. Hawley.*

"NOT ONE WORD OF IT WILL I EVER RECALL."

(*Remarks to some friends, concerning the Emancipation Proclamation, New Year's Evening, 1863.*)

"The signature looks a little tremulous, for my hand was tired, but my resolution was firm.

"I told them in September, if they did not return to their allegiance, and cease murdering our soldiers, I would strike at this pillar of their strength. And now the promise shall be kept, and not one word of it will I ever recall."

1863

LETTER TO GENERAL SAMUEL R. CURTIS, DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI.

(*Relative to the arrest of a church-member who sympathized with the Confederate army, January 2, 1863.*)

"The United States Government must not, as by this order, undertake to run the churches. When an individual in church, or out of it, becomes dangerous to the public interest, he must be checked; but let the churches, as such, take care of themselves. It will not do for the United States to appoint trustees, supervisors, or other agents for the churches."

1863

Whether receiving the plaudits of a country court for a successful defense, or the homage and praise of millions in this and other lands for the liberation of a long-oppressed race and the preservation of the nation's life, he was the same modest, self-forgetting, unelated man. —*Wilbur F. Paddock.*

HIS VOW BEFORE GOD.

(*Remarks to Secretary S. P. Chase.*)

1863 "I made a solemn vow before God, that if General Lee was driven back from Pennsylvania, I would crown the result by the declaration of freedom to the slaves."

PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE ARMY AND NAVY.

(*Message to Congress, January 19, 1863, in signing a joint resolution.*)

1863 "It seems very plain that continued issues of United States notes without any check to the issues of suspended banks, and without adequate provisions for the raising of money by loans, and for funding the issues so as to keep them within due limits, might soon produce disastrous consequences, and this matter appears to me so important that I feel bound to avail myself of this occasion to ask the special attention of Congress to it.

"That Congress has power to regulate the currency of the country can hardly admit of doubt, and that a judicious measure to prevent the deterioration of this currency by a reasonable

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His native genius, the solidity of his understanding, his common sense, and remarkable sagacity, his patience and courage, his incorruptible integrity and steadfast faith in God, made him a noble man. —*Ray Palmer.*

taxation of bank circulation or otherwise is needed, seems equally clear. Independent of this general consideration, it would be unjust to the people at large to exempt banks, enjoying the special privilege of circulation, from their just proportion of the public burdens."

"BEWARE OF RASHNESS."

(*To General Hooker, in giving him command of the Army of the Potomac.*)

"And now, beware of rashness, beware of rash-
1863 ness, but, with energy and sleepless vigi-
lance, go forward and give us victories."

REPLY TO AN ADDRESS FROM THE WORKINGMEN OF MANCHESTER, ENG.

(*Washington, January 19, 1863.*)

"I know, and deeply deplore, the sufferings which the workingmen of Manchester, and in all Europe,
1863 are called to endure in this crisis. It has been often and studiously represented that the attempt to overthrow this government, which was built upon the foundation of human rights, and to substitute for it one which should rest exclusively on the basis of human slavery, was likely to obtain the favor of Europe. Through the action of our disloyal citizens, the workingmen of Europe have

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Abraham Lincoln's cheerfulness and wit were invaluable to him in the trying years of our civil war; his unwavering faith that good would finally overcome evil buoyed his spirits through the darkest hours.—*P. T. Barnum.*

been subjected to severe trials, for the purpose of forcing their sanction to that attempt.

"Under these circumstances, I cannot but regard your decisive utterances upon the question as an instance of sublime Christian heroism, which has not been surpassed in any age or in any country. It is indeed an energetic and reinspiring assurance of the inherent power of truth, and the ultimate and universal triumph of justice, humanity, and freedom. I do not doubt that the sentiments you have expressed will be sustained by your great nation, and on the other hand I have no hesitation in assuring you that they will excite admiration, esteem, and the most reciprocal feelings of friendship among the American people. I hail this interchange of sentiment, therefore, as an augury, that, whatever else may happen, whatever misfortune may befall your country or my own, the peace and friendship which now exists between the two nations will be, as it shall be my desire to make them, perpetual."

SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

(*Given to Mr. F. B. Carpenter by Mr. Lincoln.*)

"Things had gone on from bad to worse, until I felt that we had reached the end of our rope on the plan of operations we had been pursuing; 1863 that we had about played our last card, and must change our tactics, or lose the game.

His advent and destiny will emblazon history so long as the science of government shall be read and propagated by men.—*H. M. Rector.*

"I now determined upon the adoption of the emancipation policy; and, without consultation with, or the knowledge of, the cabinet, I prepared the original draft of the proclamation, and, after much anxious thought, called a cabinet meeting upon the subject. This was the last of July, or the first of the month of August, 1862.

"I said to the cabinet that I had resolved upon this step, and had not called them together to ask their advice, but to lay the subject matter of a proclamation before them; suggestions as to which would be in order after they had heard it read. Various suggestions were offered.

1863

"The result was that I put the draft of the proclamation aside, as you do your sketch for a picture, waiting for a victory. From time to time I added or changed a line, touching it up here and there, waiting the progress of events. Well, the next news we had was of Pope's disaster at Bull Run. Things looked darker than ever.

"Finally came the week of the battle of Antietam. I determined to wait no longer. The news came, I think, on Wednesday, that the advantage was on our side. I was then staying at the 'Soldiers' Home.' Here I finished writing the second draft of the preliminary proclamation; came up on Saturday, called the cabinet together to hear it, and it was published the following morning."

There is a most unusual simplicity about his life, almost a child's life to the last, yet in the manliest proportions. He had no concealments; every step which he took in his political education became public property almost as soon as he became aware of it himself.—*J. T. Tucker.*

"UNREASONING AND UNCHARITABLE PASSIONS, PREJUDICES, AND JEALOUSIES."

(Reply to an invitation to preside over a meeting of the Christian Commission, held in Washington, February 22, 1863.)

1863 "While, for reasons which I deem sufficient, I must decline to preside, I cannot withhold my approval of the meeting and its worthy object.

"Whatever shall be sincerely and in God's name devised for the good of the soldiers and seamen in their hard spheres of duty, can scarcely fail to be blessed. And whatever shall tend to turn our thoughts from the unreasoning and uncharitable passions, prejudices, and jealousies incident to a great national trouble such as ours, and to fix them on the vast and long-enduring consequences, for weal or for woe, which are to result from the struggle, and especially to strengthen our reliance on the Supreme Being for the final triumph of the right, cannot but be well for us all.

"The birthday of Washington and the Christian Sabbath coinciding this year, and suggesting together the highest interests of this life and of that to come, it is the most propitious for the meeting proposed."

His eyes had looked upon the stronghold, which had so long defied our armies; and over it was *the dear old flag!* In one sense, this was a choice hour in which to die; and in it he died—died without pain—sealing with his blood the testimony of his lips and life.—*Richard B. Duane.*

LETTER TO GENERAL HOOKER, MAY 7, 1863, AFTER THE DEFEAT OF HIS ARMY.

"Have you already in your mind a plan wholly or partially formed? If you have, prosecute it without interference from me. If you have
1863 not, please inform me, so that I, incompetent as I may be, can try and assist in the formation of some plan for the army."

"THE GOVERNMENT MUST BE PERPETUATED."

(Reply to a committee of sixty-five members from the General Assembly of Presbyterians, that met in Philadelphia, May, 1863, and visited the President, presenting him with resolutions of endorsement and encouragement.)

"In my administration I might have committed some errors. It would be indeed remarkable if I had not. I have acted according to my
1863 best judgment in every case. As a pilot I have used my best exertions to keep afloat our Ship of State, and shall be glad to resign my trust at the appointed time to another pilot more skillful and successful than I may prove. In every case, and at all hazards, the Government must be perpetuated.

One of the noteworthy features of Lincoln's wonderful life was the manifest deepening of his sense of God's presence and providence during those later years when he bore the imperiled nation on his heart.—*John H. Barrows.*

"Relying, as I do, upon the Almighty Power, and encouraged, as I am, by these resolutions which you have just read, with the support which I receive from Christian men, I shall not hesitate to use all the means at my control to secure the termination of this rebellion, and will hope for success."

LETTER TO GENERAL JOHN M. SCHOFIELD.

(*May 24, 1863, in taking command of the Department of the Missouri.*)

"Now that you are in the position, I wish you to undo nothing merely because General Curtis or General Gamble did it, but to exercise your own judgment, and do right for the public interest. Let your military measures be strong enough to repel the invader and keep the peace, and not so strong as to unnecessarily harass and persecute the people.

1863

"It is a difficult rôle, and so much greater will be the honor if you perform it well. If both factions, or neither, shall abuse you, you will probably be about right. Beware of being assailed by one and praised by the other."

The entire nation felt safer when they heard Abraham Lincoln ask them to pray God to sustain him. He felt his dependence on the Most High, and dared not accept so lofty a trust without the blessing of the Almighty.—*Denis Wortman.*

REPLY TO ERASTUS CORNING, AND OTHERS, OF NEW YORK.

(*Who had protested against the arrest of C. L. Vallandigham.*)

1863 "Must I shoot a simple-minded boy who deserts, while I must not touch a hair of a wily agitator who induces him to desert?

"This is none the less injurious when effected by getting a father, or brother, or friend into a public meeting, and there working upon his feelings till he is persuaded to write the soldier-boy that he is fighting in a bad cause, for a wicked administration of a contemptible government, too weak to arrest and punish him if he shall desert.

"I think that, in such a case, to silence the agitator and save the boy is not only constitutional, but withal a great mercy."

IN CASE MISSOURI SHOULD ADOPT GRADUAL EMANCIPATION.

(*Reply to General Schofield, June 22, 1863.*)

1863 "Desirous as I am that emancipation shall be adopted by Missouri, and believing, as I do, that gradual can be made better than immediate for both black and white, except when

God endowed him with a nature as broad as the prairies of his own adopted State, spontaneously blossoming with all kindly graces, even as those prairies bloom with the beauty of countless flowers.—*George W. Briggs.*

military necessity changes the case, my impulse is to say that such protection would be given. I cannot know exactly what shape an act of emancipation may take. If the period from the initiation to the final end should be comparatively short, and the act should prevent persons being sold during that period into more lasting slavery, the whole would be easier.

"I do not wish to pledge the General Government to the affirmative support of even temporary slavery beyond what can be fairly claimed under the Constitution. I suppose, however, this is not desired, but that it is desired for the military force of the United States, while in Missouri, to not be used in subverting the temporarily reserved legal rights in slaves during the progress of emancipation. 1863

"This I would desire, also. I have very earnestly urged the slave States to adopt emancipation; and it ought to be, and is, an object with me not to overthrow or thwart what any of them may, in good faith, do to that end. You are, therefore, authorized to act in the spirit of this letter, in conjunction with what may appear to be the military necessities of your department.

"Although this letter will become public some time, it is not intended to be made so now."

He was struck down just as the rainbow was spanning the clearing sky, just as he was about to open, in the name of the nation, the bright gates of the Temple of Peace, just when passion was quenching her fires, and the spears and the bow were being broken asunder.—*Henry Fox.*

GRATITUDE TO GOD.

(*Proclamation, July 4, 1863.*)

"The President announces to the country that news from the army of the Potomac, up to 10 P. M., of the 3d, is such as to cover that army with
1863 the highest honor; to promise a great success to the cause of the Union, and to claim the condolence of all for the many gallant fallen; and that for this he especially desires that on this day, He whose will, not ours, should ever be done, be everywhere remembered and ever reverenced with profound gratitude."

RESPONSE TO A SERENADE AT THE WHITE HOUSE, JULY 7, 1863.

(*A large crowd of people and a band of music were on hand.*)

"I am very glad indeed to see you to-night, and yet I will not say I thank you for this call; but I do most sincerely thank Almighty God for
1863 the occasion on which you have called. How long ago is it?—eighty odd years—since, on the Fourth of July, for the first time in the history of the world, a nation by its representatives assembled

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The next generation will acknowledge that the man who rose from a log cabin to the presidential chair, who led a vast republic through its wilderness of perilous confusions and its red sea of horrible carnage, was a man who has no superior in the American annals.—*Theodore L. Cuyler.*

and declared as a self-evident truth, 'that all men are created equal.' That was the birthday of the United States of America. Since then the Fourth of July has had several very peculiar recognitions.

"The two men most distinguished in the framing and support of the Declaration were Thomas Jefferson and John Adams—the one having penned it and the other sustained it the most forcibly in debate—the only two of the fifty-five who signed it and were elected Presidents of the United States. Precisely fifty years after they put their hands to the paper, it pleased Almighty God to take both from this stage of action. This was indeed an extraordinary and remarkable event in our history. Another President five years after was called from this stage of existence on the same day and month of the year; and now on this last Fourth of July just passed, when we have a gigantic rebellion, at the bottom of which is an effort to overthrow the principle that all men were created equal, we have the surrender of a most powerful position and army on that very day. And not only so, but in a succession of battles in Pennsylvania, near to us, through three days, so rapidly fought that they might be called one great battle, on the 1st, 2d, and 3d of the month of July; and on the 4th the cohorts of those who opposed the declaration that all men are created equal, 'turned tail' and ran.

There was a majesty in his character which shone forth on all great occasions; though oppressed with the weight of responsibilites, he rose above all obstacles and proved himself equal in every emergency.—*E. D. Townsend.*

"Gentlemen, this is a glorious theme and the occasion for a speech, but I am not prepared to make one worthy of the occasion. I would 1863 like to speak in terms of praise due to the many brave officers and soldiers who have fought in the cause of the Union and liberties of their country from the beginning of the war. These are trying occasions, not only in success, but for the want of success. I dislike to mention the name of one single officer, lest I might do wrong to those I might forget. Recent events bring up glorious names, and particularly prominent ones; but these I will not mention. Having said this much, I will now take the music."

"AS LIKELY TO CAPTURE THE 'MAN IN THE MOON.'"

(*Dispatch to General Thomas, at Harrisburg, Pa., July 8, 1863.*)

"Forces now beyond Carlisle to be joined by regiments still at Harrisburg, and the united force again to join Pierce somewhere, and the 1863 whole to move down the Cumberland Valley, will, in my unprofessional opinion, be quite as likely to capture the 'Man in the Moon' as any part of Lee's Army."

The work will be completed after Lincoln, as if finished by him; but Lincoln will remain the austere and sacred personification of a great epoch, the most faithful expression of democracy.—*Henri Martin.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO GENERAL GRANT.

(*Letter to General Grant, July 13, 1863.*)

"I do not remember that you and I ever met personally. I write this now as a grateful ac-
1863 knowledgment for the almost inestimable service you have done the country.

"I write to say a word further. When you first reached the vicinity of Vicksburg, I thought you should do what you finally did—march the troops across the neck, run the batteries with the transports, and thus go below; and I never had any faith, except a general hope that you knew better than I, that the Yazoo Pass expedition, and the like, could succeed. When you got below and took Port Gibson, Grand Gulf, and vicinity, I thought you should go down the river and join General Banks; and when you turned northward, east of the Big Black, I feared it was a mistake.

"I now wish to make the personal acknowledgment that you were right and I was wrong."

A DAY FOR NATIONAL THANKSGIVING, PRAISE, AND PRAYER.

(*Proclamation issued July 15, 1863.*)

"It has pleased Almighty God to hearken to the supplication and prayers of an afflicted
1863 people, and to vouchsafe to the army and the

He became our father, and his tomb is our shrine.—*Rufus Blanchard.*

navy of the United States, on the land and on the sea, victories so signal and so effective as to furnish reasonable grounds for augmented confidence that the Union of these States will be maintained, their Constitution preserved, and their peace and prosperity permanently secured. But these victories have been accorded not without sacrifice of life, limb, and liberty, incurred by brave, patriotic, and loyal citizens. Domestic affliction, in every part of the country, follows in the train of these fearful bereavements. It is meet and right to recognize and confess the presence of the Almighty Father; and the power of His hand equally in these triumphs and these sorrows.

"Now, therefore, be it known, that I do set apart Thursday, the sixth day of August next, to be observed as a day for national thanksgiving, praise, and prayer; and I invite the people of the United States to assemble, on that occasion, in their customary places of worship, and, in the form approved by their own conscience, render the homage due to the Divine Majesty for the wonderful things He has done in the nation's behalf, and invoke the influence of His holy Spirit to subdue the anger which has produced, and so long sustained, a needless and cruel rebellion; to change the hearts of the insurgents; to guide the counsels of the government with wisdom adequate to so great a national emergency; and to visit with tender care and consolation,

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His greatness consisted not in the extraordinary development of any one faculty or attribute to the neglect of others, but in a fair and healthy growth of all the elements that make a man in the highest sense of the term.—*A. B. Bascom.*

throughout the length and breadth of our land, all those who, through the vicissitudes of marches, voyages, battles, and sieges, have been brought to suffer in mind, body, or estate; and finally, to lead the whole nation, through paths of repentance and submission to the Divine will, back to the perfect enjoyment of union and fraternal peace."

IN DISPENSING PATRONAGE THE DISABLED SOLDIER TO HAVE THE PREFERENCE.

(*Letter to the Postmaster-General, July 27, 1863.*)

"Yesterday little indorsements of mine went to you in two cases of postmasterships, sought for widows, whose husbands have fallen in the battles of this war. These cases, occurring on the same day, brought me to reflect more attentively than I had before done as to what is fairly due from us here in the dispensing of patronage toward the men who, by fighting our battles, bear the chief burden of saving our country.

1863

"My conclusion is that, other claims and qualifications being equal, they have the right, and this is especially applicable to the disabled soldier and the deceased soldier's family."

His towering figure, sharp and spare,
Was with such nervous tension strung,
As if on each strained sinew swung
The burden of a people's care.

—*Charles G. Halpine.*

DISPATCH TO GENERAL BURNSIDE AT CINCINNATI, JULY 27, 1863.

"General Grant is a copious worker and fighter, but a very meager writer or telegrapher."

1863

DECLINES AN INVITATION TO ATTEND THE ILLINOIS REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION, SEPTEMBER 3, 1863.

(*Letter to J. C. Conkling, Springfield, August 26, 1863.*)

"The signs look better. The Father of Waters again goes unvexed to the sea. Thanks to the great Northwest for it; nor yet wholly to them. Three hundred miles up they met New England, Empire, Keystone, and Jersey hewing their way right and left. The sunny South, too, in more colors than one, also lent a helping hand. On the spot, their part of the history was jotted down in black and white.

1863

"The job was a great national one, and let none be slighted who bore an honorable part in it. And while those who cleared the river may well be proud, even that is not all. It is hard to say that anything has been more bravely and well done than at Antie-

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Such love a prince might crave, such homage seek:
The people's love that clothed him like a king,
The grateful trust those hands were swift to bring
Whose broken fetters of deliverance speak.

—*Harriet McEwen Kimball.*

tam, Murfreesboro, Gettysburg, and on many fields of less note.

"Nor must Uncle Sam's web-feet be forgotten. At all the watery margins they have been present. Not only on the deep sea, the broad bay, and the rapid river, but also up the narrow, muddy bayou, and wherever the ground was a little damp, they have been and made their tracks.

"Thanks to all. For the great republic—for the principle it lives by and keeps alive—for man's vast future—thanks to all.

"Peace does not appear so distant as it did. I hope it will come soon, and come to stay; and so come as to be worth the keeping in all future time. It will then have been proved that, among freemen, there can be no successful appeal from the ballot to the bullet, and that they who take such appeal are sure to lose their case and pay the cost.

1863

"And there will be some black men who can remember that, with silent tongue, and clinched teeth, and steady eye, and well-poised bayonets, they have helped mankind on to this great consummation, while I fear there will be some white ones unable to forget that, with malignant heart and deceitful speech, they have striven to hinder it.

"Still, let us not be over-sanguine of a speedy final triumph. Let us be quite sober. Let us diligently apply the means, never doubting that a just

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The death of Mr. Lincoln struck the ear and awoke the sympathy of European nations, which echoed back, through numerous expressions of condolence, the commingled tones of a wide-spread grief.—*J. M. Purinton.*

God, in His own good time, will give us the rightful result."

CONGRATULATING THE PRESIDENT ON ISSUING THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

(*Speech to a large body of people who assembled before the White House, September 24, 1863.*)

"What I did, I did after a very full determination, and under a very heavy and solemn sense of responsibility. I can only trust in God I have made no mistake. 1863

"It is now for the country and the world to pass judgment, and, maybe, take action upon it. In my position, I am environed with difficulties. Yet they are scarcely so great as the difficulties of those who, upon the battlefield, are endeavoring to purchase, with their blood and their lives, the future happiness and prosperity of their country. Let us never forget them!"

PARDON FOR A DESERTER.

(*Remarks to Hon. Schuyler Colfax, who asked for a respite.*)

"Some of our generals complain that I impair discipline and subordination in the army by my pardons and respites, but it makes me rested, after a day's hard work, if I can find 1863

He united in his nature the rugged endurance of the oak, with the yielding grace and humility of the willow.—*C. F. Burdick.*

some good excuse for saving a man's life; and I go to bed happy as I think how joyous the signing of my name makes him and his family and his friends."

REFUSAL TO PARDON A MAN FOR IMPORTING SLAVES.

(*Reply to Mr. Alley, who read a petition for the man's pardon.*)

"You know my weakness is to be, if possible, too easily moved by appeals for mercy; and, if this man were guilty of the foulest murder that
1863 the arm of man could perpetrate, I might forgive him on such an appeal; but the man who could go to Africa, and rob her of her children, and sell them into interminable bondage, with no other motive than that which is furnished by dollars and cents, is so much worse than the most depraved murderer that he can never receive pardon at my hands."

PROCLAMATION OF THANKSGIVING DAY.

(*Issued October 3, 1863.*)

"The year that is drawing toward its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which
1863 are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone

History furnishes scarcely a parallel to the character of this greatest of reformers. — *Wesley Merritt.*

to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever-watchful Providence of Almighty God.

"In the midst of a civil war of unequaled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to invite and provoke the aggression of foreign states, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere, except in the theater of military conflict.

"The needful diversion of wealth and strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense has not arrested the plow, the shuttle, or the ship.

"The ax has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made by the camp, the siege, and the battlefield, and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom.

1863

"No human council hath devised, nor hath any mortal hand worked out, these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who,

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When all seemed dark—not a ray of sunshine, or even the faintest flicker of a star could be seen penetrating the political firmament—he stood undisturbed.—*Lewis H. Steiner*.

while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.

"It seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverentially, and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and voice, by the whole American people.

"I recommend too, that, while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliv-

1863 erances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners, or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it, as soon as may be consistent with divine purposes, to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity, and union."

"THE REBELLION MUST DWINDLE AND DIE."

(*Letter to General Rosecrans, Chattanooga, Tenn., October 4, 1863.*)

"If we can hold Chattanooga and East Tennessee, I think the rebellion must dwindle and die. I

1863 understand the main body of the army is very near you—so near that you could

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Mr. Lincoln's part in subduing the Rebellion will be better appreciated as time clears away the mist of race prejudice and the fogs of political intrigues.—*Ben. Perley Poore.*

'board at home,' so to speak, and menace or attack him any day. Would not the doing of this be your best mode of counteracting his raids on your communications? But this is not an order."

A PERPLEXING COMPOUND—AFFAIRS IN MISSOURI.

(*Letter to Hon. Charles D. Drake, October 5, 1863.*)

"We are in civil war. In such cases there is a main question; but in this case that question is a perplexing compound, union and slavery. 1863 It thus becomes a question, not of two sides merely, but at least four sides even among those who are for the Union, saying nothing of those who are against it.

"Thus, those who are for the Union with, but not without slavery; those for it without, but not with; those for it with or without, but prefer it with; and those for it with or without, but prefer it without. Among these, again, is a subdivision of those who are for gradual, but not for immediate, and those who are for immediate, but not for gradual, extinction of slavery.

"It is easy to conceive that all these shades of opinion, and even more, may be sincerely enter-

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He fell in the very height of glory. Just re-established in the presidential chair by the overwhelming choice of his countrymen, rising into the profound respect of the civilized world, permitted to see his long watchings and toils crowned with success.—*John E. Todd.*

tained by honest and truthful men; yet all being for the Union, by reason of these differences, each will prefer a different way of sustaining the Union. At once sincerity is questioned and motives are assailed.

"Actual war coming, blood grows hot and blood is spilled; thought is forced from all channels into confusion; deception breeds and thrives, confidence dies, and universal suspicion reigns. Each man feels an impulse to kill his neighbor, last he be first killed by him; revenge and retaliation follow, and all this, as before said, may be among honest men only. But this is not all; every foul bird comes abroad and every dirty reptile rises up. These add crime to confusion. Strong measures, deemed indispensable, but harsh at best, such men make worse by maladministration.

1863

"Murders for old grudges and murders for pelf proceed under any cloak that will best cover for the occasion. These causes amply account for what has occurred in Missouri.

"The evils now complained of were quite as prevalent under Frémont, Hunter, Halleck, and Curtis as under Schofield.

"Without disparaging any, I affirm with confidence that no commander of that department has, in proportion to his means, done better than General Schofield."

It was his task, as it is every man's, to hew from out a mass of shapeless stuff a name, a character, and influence. But how many find their marble ready and their tools at hand? It was not so with him. He was obliged to quarry his material and to fashion his tools. —*John W. Chadwick.*

HIS MOTHER'S PRAYERS.

(*Words uttered to a friend.*)

"I remember her prayers, and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life."

LETTER TO GENERAL HALLECK, OCTOBER 16, 1863.

"If General Meade can now attack him on a field no more than equal for us, and will do so with all the skill and courage which he, his officers,
1863 and men possess, the honor will be his if he succeeds, and the blame may be mine if he fails."

ADDRESS ON THE BATTLEFIELD OF GETTYSBURG.

(*At the dedication of the cemetery, November 19, 1863.*)

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

With a trusting, noble, fearless heart he had never hesitated to mingle with the people. He had gone to the front, and made himself accessible to all at home. He had shown himself ready to answer every reasonable summons, and was not afraid of any living man.—*A. S. Patton.*

"Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

"But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

President Lincoln displayed a character of so much integrity, sincerity, and straightforwardness, and, at the same time, of so much kindness, that if anyone could have been able to alleviate the pain and animosity which have prevailed during the Civil War, I believe President Lincoln was the man to have done it.—*Lord John Russell.*

ASKED GOD FOR VICTORY AT GETTYSBURG.

(*To General Sickles, when he asked Mr. Lincoln what he thought of Gettysburg.*)

"I had no fears of Gettysburg, and if you really want to know I tell you why.

"In the stress and pinch of the campaign there, I went to my room, and got down on my knees and prayed Almighty God for victory at Gettysburg.

"I told Him that this was His country, and the war was His war, but that we really couldn't stand another Fredericksburg or Chancellorsville.

"And then and there I made a solemn vow with my Maker that if he would stand by the boys at Gettysburg I would stand by Him. And He did, and I will.

"After this, I don't know how it was, and it is not for me to explain, but, somehow or other, a sweet comfort crept into my soul, that God Al-
1863 mighty had taken the whole thing into His own hands, and we were bound to win at Gettysburg.

"No; General Sickles, I had no fears of Gettysburg, and that is the why."

I know that Mr. Lincoln, as President of the United States, warranted the hope that in the hour of victory, and in the triumph of victory, he would have shown that wise forbearance and that generous consideration which would have added tenfold luster to the fame that he had already acquired amid the varying fortunes of the war.— *Sir George Grey.*

CONTINUED DEPENDENCE ON THE ARMY AND NAVY.

(*Third annual Message to Congress, December 8, 1863.*)

"In the midst of other cares, however important, we must not lose sight of the fact that the war power is still our main reliance. To that power alone can we look, yet for a time, to give confidence to the people in the contested regions that the insurgent power will not again overrun them. Until that confidence shall be established, little can be done anywhere for what is called reconstruction. Hence our chiefest care must still be directed to the army and navy, who have thus far borne their harder part so nobly and well.

1863

"And it may be esteemed fortunate that, in giving the greatest efficiency to these indispensable arms, we do also honorably recognize the gallant men, from commander to sentinel, who compose them, and to whom, more than to others, the world must stand indebted for the home of freedom, disenthralled, regenerated, enlarged, and perpetuated."

PLEA FOR THE COLORED PEOPLE.

(*Letter, January 11, 1864, to Michael Hahn, governor-elect of Louisiana.*)

"I congratulate you on having fixed your name in history as the first Free State Governor of Louisiana. Now you are about to have a convention, which, among other things, will

1864

I am sure, as millions have said, that, take him for all in all, we never shall look upon his like again.—*J. W. Forney.*

probably define the elective franchise, I barely suggest, for your private consideration, whether some of the colored people may not be let in, as, for instance, the very intelligent, and *especially those who have fought gallantly in our ranks.*

"They would probably help, in some trying time to come, to keep the jewel of liberty in the family of freedom."

U. S. GRANT COMMISSIONED LIEUTENANT GENERAL.

(Remarks at the presentation of the commission, March 9, 1864.)

"The nation's appreciation of what you have done, and its reliance upon you for what remains to be done in the existing great struggle, are now presented with this commission, constituting you Lieutenant General in the Army of the United States. With this high honor devolves upon you also a corresponding responsibility.

1864

"As the country herein trusts you, so under God, it will sustain you. I scarcely need to add that, with what I here speak for the nation, goes my own hearty personal concurrence."

Some of the grandest flights of oratory the world has ever witnessed have been manifested on the great occasions which called men together during our great war, but none of them have so taken the popular heart as the homely phrases of Abraham Lincoln.—*Richard Eddy.*

GENERAL GRANT'S REPLY.

"I accept this commission, with gratitude for the high honor conferred. With the aid of the noble
1864 armies that have fought on so many fields for our common country, it will be my earnest endeavor not to disappoint your expectations. I feel the full weight of the responsibilities now devolving on me, and I know if they are met, it will be due to those armies; and above all, to the favor of that Providence which leads both nations and men."

GOD BLESS THE WOMEN OF AMERICA.

(Speech at a Ladies' Fair for the benefit of the soldiers, Washington, March 16, 1864.)

"I appear to say but a word This extraordinary war in which we are engaged falls heavily upon all
1864 classes of people, but the most heavily upon the soldiers. For it has been said, 'All that a man hath will he give for his life,' and, while all contribute of their substance, the soldier puts his life at stake, and often yields it up in his country's cause. *The highest merit, then, is due the soldier.*

"In this extraordinary war extraordinary devel-

By patient culture, step by step he rose
From the rude cabin of the humblest poor;
Wrestling from year to year with Life's stern foes,
Till Victory opened wide her crystal door.

—*John Westall.*

opments have manifested themselves, such as have not been seen in former wars; and, among these manifestations, nothing has been more remarkable than these fairs for the relief of suffering soldiers and their families, and the chief agents in these fairs are the women of America!

"I am not accustomed to the use of language of eulogy; I have never studied the art of paying compliments to women; but I must say that, if all that has been said by orators and poets since the creation of the world in praise of women were applied to the women of America, it would not do them justice for their conduct during the war.

"I will close by saying, God bless the women of America!"

PARDON FOR A SLEEPING SENTRY.

(*Remarks made by Mr. Lincoln to a friend as he read the pardon.*)

[Rev. Newman Hall of England said, in a sermon preached after the President's death, that the dead body of this youth was found among the slain on the battlefield of Fredericksburg, wearing next to his heart a photograph of his preserver, beneath which the grateful fellow had written, "God bless President Lincoln."]

1864

Our hearts are sad, our eyes are dim;
We hoped long years of rest for him,
To enjoy the peace for which he wrought,
The peace with his own life-blood bought.

—*S. G. W. Benjamin.*

"I could not think of going into eternity with the blood of the poor young man on my skirts. It
1864 is not to be wondered at that a boy raised on a farm, probably in the habit of going to bed at dark, should, when required to watch, fall asleep; and I cannot consent to shoot him for such an act."

"ALREADY TOO MANY WEEPING WIDOWS."

(*Reply to a general who insisted on the President signing the warrants for the execution of twenty-four deserters.*)

"There are already too many weeping widows
1864 in the United States. For God's sake, don't ask me to add to the number, for I won't do it."

REPLY TO A PLEA FOR THE LIFE OF A SOLDIER.

"Well, I think the boy can do us more good above the ground than under it."

"GOD ALONE CAN CLAIM IT."

(*Letter to A. G. Hodges, April 4, 1864.*)

"I attempt no compliment to my own sagacity.
1864 I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have con-
'led me.

Pure in life and motive, inflexible in his purpose to do right as he understood it.—*John B. Gough.*

"Now, at the end of three years' struggle, the nation's condition is not what either party or any man devised or expected. God alone can claim it. Whither it is tending seems plain.

"If God now wills the removal of a great wrong, and wills also, that we of the North, as well as you of the South, shall pay fairly for our complicity in that wrong, impartial history will find therein new causes to attest and revere the justice and goodness of God."

INTEREST IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

(*To Hon. Elisha H. Allen, Envoy Extraordinary from the Islands, April 11, 1864.*)

"In every light in which the state of the Hawaiian Islands can be contemplated, it is an object of profound interest for the United States. Virtually it was once a colony. It is now a near and intimate neighbor. It is a haven of shelter and refreshment for our merchants, fishermen, seamen, and other citizens, when, on their lawful occasions, they are navigating the eastern seas and oceans. Its people are free, and its laws, language, and religion are largely the fruit of our own teaching and example. The distinguished part which you, Mr. Minister, have acted in the history of that interesting country is well known here. It gives me pleasure to assure you of my sincere desire to

1864

No American president had ever spoken words like these to the American people. America never had a president who found such words in the depths of his heart.—*Carl Schurz.*

do what I can to render now your sojourn in the United States agreeable to yourself, satisfactory to your sovereign, and beneficial to the Hawaiian people."

PRAISE FOR THE COLORED SOLDIER.

(*Letter to General James S. Wadsworth, 1864.*)

"How to better the condition of the colored race has long been a study which has attracted my serious and careful attention; hence I think
1864 I am clear and decided as to what course I shall pursue in the premises, regarding it as a religious duty, as the nation's guardian of these people who have so heroically vindicated their manhood on the battlefield, where, in assisting to save the life of the Republic, they have demonstrated their right to the ballot, which is but the humane protection of the flag they have so fearlessly defended."

SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF A FAIR.

(*For the benefit of the U. S. Sanitary Commission, Baltimore, April 18, 1864.*)

"Calling to mind that we are in Baltimore, we cannot fail to note that the world moves. Looking
1864 upon these many people I see assembled here, to serve as they best may the soldiers

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He rose, not like a blazing comet that rushes through the sky and is gone, but like a star, gradually rising with increasing luster, until he covered the whole nation with a sheen of glory.—*S. L. Yourtee.*

of the Union, it at once occurs to me that, three years ago, the same soldiers could not so much as pass through Baltimore. The change from then till now is both great and gratifying. I would say, Blessings upon the men who have wrought the change, and the fair women who strive to reward them for it.

"When the war began, three years ago, neither party nor any man expected it would last till now. Each looked for the end, in some way, long ere to-day. Neither did any anticipate that domestic slavery would be much affected by the war. But here we are: the war has not ended, and slavery has been much affected—how much need not now be recounted. So true it is that man proposes and God disposes.

"The world has never had a good definition of the word liberty, and the American people, just now, are much in want of one. We all de-
1864 clare for liberty, but in using the same *word* we do not all mean the same thing. With some the word liberty may mean for each man to do as he pleases with himself and the product of his labor; while to others the same word may mean for some men to do as they please with other men, and the product of other men's labor.

"Here are two not only different, but incompatible things, called by the same name—liberty. And it follows that each of these things is, by the

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He makes his father's home, helps build his house and fence his farm, and immortalizes that humble form of labor which renders the title of "*rail-splitter*" a patent of America's nobility.—*Miss Emma Hardinge.*

respective parties, called by two different and incompatible names—liberty and tyranny.

"The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as a *liberator;* while the wolf denounces him for the same act, as the destroyer of liberty, especially as the sheep was a black one. Plainly, the sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon a definition of the word liberty, and precisely the same difference prevails to-day among us human creatures, even in the North, and all professing to love liberty.

1864

"At the beginning of the war, and for some time, the use of colored troops was not contemplated; and how the change of purpose was wrought, I will not now take time to explain. Upon a clear construction of duty, I resolved to turn that element of strength to account; and I am responsible for it to the American people, to the Christian world, to history, and on my final account to God."

CONSIDERS GRANT VIGILANT AND SELF-RELIANT.

(*Letter to Lieutenant General Grant, April 30, 1864.*)

"Not expecting to see you before the spring campaign opens, I wish to express in this way my entire satisfaction with what you have done up to this time, so far as I understand it. The

1864

For the flights of impassioned oratory, his emotional nature was too sluggish, or too carefully repressed; but in tenderness and pathos, he felt his way to the heart with a success that genius might envy.—*William Binney.*

particulars of your plans I neither know nor seek to know. You are vigilant and self-reliant; and, pleased with this, I wish not to obtrude any restraints or constraints upon you.

"While I am very anxious that any great disaster or capture of our men in great numbers shall be avoided, I know that these points are less likely to escape your attention than they would mine. If there be anything wanting, which is within my power to give, do not fail to let me know it.

"And now, with a brave army, and a just cause, may God sustain you."

RESTORING THE UNION THE SOLE PURPOSE OF THE WAR.

"There have been men base enough to propose to me to return to slavery the black warriors of Port Hudson and Olustee, and thus win the respect of the masters they fought. Should I do so, I should deserve to be damned in time and eternity. Come what will, I will keep my faith with friend and foe.

1864

"My enemies pretend I am now carrying on this war for the sole purpose of abolition. So long as I am President, it shall be carried on for the sole purpose of restoring the Union.

"But no human power can subdue this rebellion

His constant touch and sympathy with the people inspired the confidence which enabled him to command and wield all the forces of the republic.—*Chauncey M. Depew.*

without the use of the emancipation policy and every other policy calculated to weaken the moral and physical forces of the rebellion."

ADVICE TO AN OFFICER WHO HAD BEEN COURT-MARTIALED FOR QUARRELING.

"No man resolved to make the most of himself can spare time for personal contention. Still less
1864 can he afford to take all the consequences, including the vitiating of his temper and the loss of self-control. Yield larger things to which you can show no more than equal right; and yield lesser ones, though clearly your own. Better give your path to a dog than be bitten by him in contesting for the right; even killing the dog would not cure the bite."

"GOD BLESS ALL THE CHURCHES."

(*To a committee from the Methodist Conference, held in Philadelphia, May, 1864.*)

"Nobly sustained as the government has been by all the churches, I would utter nothing which might,
1864 in the least, appear invidious against any. Yet without this it may fairly be said that

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He was a faithful husband and a kind father. All his virtues were homebred, and a domestic sweetness flavored his public acts. He was too much a father to conduct the pitiless discipline of an army. If a tired boy fell asleep on guard, he had not the heart to have him shot.—*Geo. L. Chaney.*

the Methodist Episcopal Church, not less devoted than the rest, is, by its greater numbers, the most important of all.

"It is no fault in others that the Methodist Church sends more soldiers to the field, more nurses to the hospital, and more prayers to heaven than any.

"God bless the Methodist Church! bless all the churches, and blessed be God! who, in this, our great trial, giveth us the churches."

PROCLAMATION OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER.

(*To friends of Union and Liberty, May 9. 1864.*)

"Enough is known of army operations, within the last five days, to claim our special gratitude to God; while what remains undone demands our most sincere prayers to and reliance upon Him, without whom all effort is vain.

1864

"I recommend that all patriots at their homes, in their places of public worship, and wherever they may be, unite in common thanksgiving and prayer to Almighty God."

The Martyr President seals with his blood the emancipation of a race, and grasping four millions of broken coffles, ascends to the bosom of his God, thus consecrating the land of Washington as the home of the emigrant and the asylum of the oppressed of every clime and of all races of men.—*Galasha A. Grow.*

RESPONSE TO A SERENADE AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

(*May 13, 1864, in honor of the victory won by Grant and his army.*)

"I am indeed very grateful to the brave men who have been struggling with the enemy in the field, to their noble commanders, who have directed them, and especially to our Maker. While we are grateful to all the brave men and officers for the events of the past few days, we should, above all, be very grateful to Almighty God, who gives us victory.

1864

"There is enough yet before us requiring all loyal men and patriots to perform their share of the labor and follow the example of the modest general at the head of our armies, and sink all personal consideration for the sake of the country."

A PESENTIMENT.

(*Remarks to Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe.*)

"Whichever way it ends, I have the impression that I shall not last long after it is over."

1864

He was not only the head of an administration which shaped events, the mightiest of the century, but its balance wheel also. The American people owe to him that the important steps in the war for the preservation of the Union were taken just at the fitting moment.—*Eugene Hale.*

Photo by Coe, Washington.

CHAIR IN WHICH PRESIDENT LINCOLN WAS SEATED WHEN ASSASSINATED.

WOULD WILLINGLY EXCHANGE PLACES WITH THE SOLDIER.

(*To Hon. Schuyler Colfax, upon receiving bad news from the army.*)

"How willingly would I exchange places to-day
with the soldier who sleeps on the ground
1864 in the Army of the Potomac!"

STORY-TELLING WAS A RELIEF.

(*To a Congressman who objected to the President telling a story when he had important business to present.*)

"You cannot be more anxious than I am con-
stantly; and I say to you now, that if
1864 it were not for this occasional vent, I
should die."

"FIRM BELIEF IN AN OVERRULING PROVIDENCE."

(*Interview with Rev. J. T. Duryea of New York.*)

"If it were not for my firm belief in an over-
ruling Providence, it would be difficult for me, in
the midst of such complications of affairs,
1864 to keep my reason on its seat. But I am

I think I never saw a face from which it was so easy to get a likeness that all would recognize, and yet would so little represent the man in his entireness. One artist only in a thousand could fairly represent it.—*S. C. Thrall.*

confident that the Almighty has His plans and will work them out; and, whether we see it or not, they will be the wisest and best for us. I have always taken counsel of Him, and refer to Him my plans, and have never adopted a course of proceeding without being assured, as far as I could be, of His approbation. To be sure, He has not conformed to my desires, or else we should have been out of our trouble long ago.

"On the other hand, His will does not seem to agree with the wish of our enemy over there [pointing across the Potomac]. He stands the judge between us, and we ought to be willing to accept His decisions. We have reason to anticipate that it will be favorable to us, for our cause is right."

ANYTHING TO STRENGTHEN AND SUSTAIN GENERAL GRANT.

(*Answer to an invitation to attend a meeting in New York City, June 4, 1864, to express gratitude to General Grant and the soldiers under his command.*)

1864 "I approve, nevertheless, of whatever may tend to strengthen and sustain General Grant and the noble armies now under his direction.

"My previous high estimate of General Grant has been maintained and heightened by what has occurred in the remarkable campaign he is now con-

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He seized intuitively upon the vital point of every question, clearly stated the real issue, ranged all subordinate facts round this, and summarily discarded everything which had no relation to it.—*Marvin R. Vincent.*

ducting, while the magnitude and difficulty of the task before him do not prove less than I expected.

"He and his brave soldiers are now in the midst of their great trial, and I trust that at your meeting you will so shape your good words that they may turn to men and guns, moving to his and their support."

SECOND NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

(*Response to an address by George W. Dennison, President of the National Republican Convention at Baltimore, notifying Mr. Lincoln of his nomination. The committee met at the White House on the 9th of June, 1864.*)

"I will neither conceal my gratification, nor restrain the expression of my gratitude, that the
1864 Union people throughout this country, in the continued effort to save and advance the nation, have deemed me not unworthy to remain in my present position."

TO A DELEGATION OF THE NATIONAL UNION LEAGUE.

(*At the White House, June 9, 1864.*)

"I can only say, in response to the kind remarks of your chairman, as I suppose, that I am very
1864 grateful for the renewed confidence which has been accorded to me both by the Con-

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He looked wide, and he looked deep, and he looked all around, and he looked inside and outside, and he looked many times before he came to a conclusion.—*C. M. Butler.*

vention and by the National League. I am not insensible to all the personal compliment there is in this, and yet I do not allow myself to believe that any but a small portion of it is to be appropriated as a personal compliment; that really the convention and the Union League assembled with a higher view—that of taking care of the interests of the country for the present and the great future—and that the part I am entitled to appropriate as a compliment is only that part which I may lay hold of as being the opinion of the Convention and of the League, that I am not entirely unworthy to be intrusted with the place which I have occupied for the last three years.

"But I do not allow myself to suppose that either the Convention or the League have concluded to decide that I am either the greatest or best man in America, but rather they have concluded that it is not best to swap horses while crossing the river, and have further concluded that I am not so poor a horse that they might not make a botch of it in trying to swap."

DISPATCH TO GENERAL GRANT, JUNE 15, 1864.

1864 "Have just read your dispatch of (1.30 P. M.) yesterday. I begin to see it; you will succeed. God bless you all!"

He was one of the people. He was in sympathy with them. He would never plant a thorn unnecessarily in any man's breast. He laid his large heart alongside that of the people, and every pulsation of the one found a responsive thrill in the other.—*Richard S. Field.*

"GOING THROUGH ON THIS LINE, IF IT TAKES THREE YEARS MORE."

(*Speech at a Philadelphia Fair for the benefit of the soldiers, June 18, 1864.*)

"War, at the best, is terrible, and this war of ours, in its magnitude and its duration is one of the most terrible. It has deranged business totally
1864 in many localities, and partially in all localities. It has destroyed property and ruined homes; it has produced a national debt and taxation unprecedented, at least in this country; it has carried mourning to almost every home, until it can almost be said that the 'heavens are hung in black.'

"Yet the war continues, and several relieving coincidents have accompanied it from the very beginning, which have not been known, as I understand, or have any knowledge of, in any former wars in the history of the world.

"The sanitary commission, with all its benevolent labors; the Christian commission, with all its Christian and benevolent labors, and the various places, arrangements, so to speak, and institutions, have contributed to the comfort and relief of the soldiers.

"It is a pertinent question, often asked in the mind privately, and from one to the other: 'When is the war to end?' Surely I feel as deep an interest in this question as any other can, but I do not

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He was murdered at the very hour when he was bending the energies of his clear head and generous heart to the great work of healing the wounds of the nation and restoring the breaches made by the Rebellion.—*Robert R. Booth.*

wish to name a day, a month, or a year when it is to end. I do not wish to run any risk of seeing the time come without our being ready for the end, for fear of disappointment because the time has come and not the end.

"We accepted this war for an object, a worthy object, and the war will end when that object is attained. Under God, *I hope it never will end until that time!*

"Speaking of the present campaign, General Grant is reported to have said, 'I am going through on this line, if it takes all summer.' This 1864 war has taken three years; it was begun, or accepted, upon the line of restoring the national authority over the whole national domain; and for the American people, as far as my knowledge enables me to speak, I say we are going through on this line, if it takes three years more."

ACCEPTANCE OF THE NOMINATION FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

(*Letter, dated June 27, 1864, to Hon. Wm. Dennison, President Republican National Convention.*)

"The nomination is gratefully accepted, as the resolutions of the Convention, called the platform, are heartily approved. I am especially 1864 gratified that the soldiers and seamen were

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His fullness of anecdote, so effective in quickening the pulse and cheering the heart, served a most valuable ulterior end, in compassing all the elements of a forcible argument, and carrying deep conviction to his auditory.—*A. A. Miner.*

not forgotten by the Convention, as they forever must, and will, be remembered by the grateful country for whose salvation they devote their lives."

"OUR CAUSE IS JUST, AND GOD IS ON OUR SIDE."

(*Reply to a company of clergymen.*)

"My hope of success in this great and terrible struggle rests on that immutable foundation, the justice and goodness of God. And when 1864 events are very threatening and prospects very dark, I still hope in some way, which man cannot see, all will be well in the end, because our cause is just, and God is on our side."

REGARDING PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The following paper was sent by the President, July 18, 1864, to the Confederate commissioners at Niagara Falls, who were empowered to negotiate peace:

"Any propositions which embrace the restoration of peace, *the integrity of the whole Union*, and the abandonment of slavery, and which come 1864 by and with an authority that can control

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His noble qualities inspired generous confidence and commanded general respect, and his successful administration will be evidence, in all time to come, of his own worth and the wisdom of his measures. —*Lewis Cass.*

the armies now at war against the United States, will be received and considered by the Executive Government of the United States, and will be met by liberal terms on other substantial and collateral points; and the bearer or bearers thereof shall have safe conduct both ways."

TO A COMMITTEE FROM THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH, AUGUST, 1864.

"I welcome here the representatives of the Evangelical Lutherans of the United States. I accept, with gratitude, their assurance of the sym-
1864 pathy and support of that enlightened, influential, and loyal class of my fellow-citizens in an important crisis, which involves, in my judgment, not only the civil and religious liberties of our own dear land, but in a large degree the civil and religious liberties of mankind in many countries, and through many ages.

"You well know, gentlemen, and the world knows, how reluctantly I accepted this issue of battle forced upon me, on my advent to this place, by the internal enemies of our country. You all may recollect that in taking up the sword thus forced into our hands, this government appealed to the

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He had found slavery in the Constitution that he had sworn to maintain; as president, he had not the right, therefore, to touch it. But this same Constitution gave the president the right to seize the property of the enemy, and to take all measures necessary for the suppression of the Rebellion.—*Edouard Laboulaye.*

prayers of the pious and the good, and declared that it placed its whole dependence upon the favor of God.

"I now humbly and reverently, in your presence, reiterate the acknowledgment of that dependence,
1864 not doubting that if it shall please the Divine Being who determines the destinies of nations, this shall remain a united people. They will, humbly seeking the Divine guidance, make their prolonged national existence a source of new benefits to themselves and their successors, and to all classes and conditions of mankind."

"HOLD ON WITH A BULLDOG GRIP."

(*Dispatch to General Grant, August 17, 1864.*)

"I have seen your dispatch expressing your
1864 unwillingness to break your hold where you are. Neither am I willing. Hold on with a bulldog grip."

MR. LINCOLN SEEKS RELAXATION.

Seeking relaxation from the engrossing cares which confronted him night and day, Mr. Lincoln
1864 remarked to Schuyler Colfax, as he went to the theater one evening after receiving in-

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His words were clothed with the force of the law; his hand was upon the secret spring of a nation's energies; his opinions were scanned and weighed as the foreshadowing of the settled policy of a re-integrated republic. On his will and purpose largely depended the peace of the world.—*A. N. Littlejohn.*

telligence of what he regarded as reverses to the army of General Grant in the Wilderness:

"People may think strange of it, but I *must* have some relief from this terrible anxiety, or it will kill me."

ANSWER TO AN APPLICATION FOR PARDON.

The following reply was made by Mr. Lincoln to an application for the pardon of a soldier who had shown himself very brave in war, and had been severely wounded, but afterward deserted:

"Did you say he was once badly wounded? Then, as the Scriptures say that in the shed-
1864 ding of blood is the remission of sins, I guess we'll have to let him off this time."

"STAND FAST TO THE UNION AND THE OLD FLAG."

(*Speech to the 148th Ohio Infantry Regiment.*)

"It is vain and foolish to arraign this man or that for the part he has taken or has not taken, and to hold the Government responsible for his
1864 acts. In no administration can there be

Inured to hardships, poverty, and toil,
He coolly parried each successive foil;
Shirking no duty, shrinking from no pain,
So *Truth* and *Mercy* might supremely reign.
—*Mrs. Caroline A. Hayden.*

perfect equality of action and uniform satisfaction rendered by all.

"But this Government must be preserved in spite of the acts of any man or set of men. It is worthy your every effort. Nowhere in the world is 1864 presented a government of so much liberty and equality. To the humblest and poorest among us are held out the highest privileges and positions. The present moment finds me at the White House, yet there is as good a chance for your children as there was for my father's.

"Again I admonish you not to be turned from your stern purpose of defending our beloved country and its free institutions by any arguments urged by ambitious and designing men, but stand fast to the Union and the old flag."

"WE WILL CARRY OUT THE WORK WE HAVE COMMENCED."

(*Speech to the 164th Ohio Infantry Regiment, September, 1864.*)

"There is more involved in this contest than is realized by everyone. There is involved in this struggle the question whether your children 1864 and my children shall enjoy the privileges we have enjoyed. I say this in order to impress

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"Forgive them, for they know not what they do!"
He said, and so went shriven to his fate:
Unknowing went, that generous heart and true,
Even while he spake the slayer lay in wait.

—*Edmund C. Stedman.*

upon you, if you are not already so impressed, that no small matter should divert you from your great purpose. There may be some inequalities in the practical application of our system. It is fair that each man shall pay taxes in exact proportion to the value of his property; but if we should wait before collecting a tax to adjust the taxes upon each man in exact proportion with every other man, we should never collect any tax at all.

"There may be mistakes made. Sometimes things may be done wrong, while the officers of the Government do all they can to prevent mistakes; but I beg of you, as citizens of this great republic, not to let your minds be carried off from the great work we have before us.

1864

"The struggle is too large for you to be diverted from it by any small matter. When you return to your homes, rise up to the dignity of a generation of men worthy of a free government, and we will carry out the work we have commenced."

INDEBTED TO THE CHRISTIAN PEOPLE.

(*Letter to Mrs. Eliza P. Gurney, September 30, 1864.*)

"I have not forgotten, probably never shall, the very impressive occasion when yourself and friends visited me on a Sabbath forenoon two years ago. Nor shall your kind letter, written

1864

He was the greatest president in American history, because in a time of revolution he comprehended the spirit of American institutions.—*Lyman Abbott.*

nearly a year later, ever be forgotten. In all, it has been your purpose to strengthen my reliance in God. I am much indebted to the good Christian people of the country for their constant prayers and consolations, and to no one of them more than to yourself.

"The purposes of the Almighty are perfect and must prevail, though we erring mortals may fail to accurately perceive them in advance. We hoped for a happy termination of this terrible war long before this, but God knows best, and has ruled otherwise.

"We shall yet acknowledge His wisdom and our own errors therein; meanwhile we must work earnestly in the best light He gives us, trusting that so working still conduces to the great ends He ordains. Surely He intends some great good to follow this almighty convulsion, which no mortal could make, and no mortal could stay.

"Your people, the Friends, have had, and are having, very great trials. On principles and faith
1864 opposed to both war and oppression, they can only practically oppose oppression by war. In this hard dilemma, some have chosen one horn and some the other. For those appealing to me on conscientious grounds I have done and shall do the best I could and can in my own conscience, under my oath to the law. That you believe this I

No college claims him as its alumnus. His alma mater was fixed by Providence amid the woods and waters of the then far West. His days were spent in hard and ill-remunerating toil, and few indeed were the hours that could be spared for what is called intellectual improvement.—*J. J. Carruthers.*

doubt not, and believe I shall still receive for my country and myself your earnest prayers to our Father in heaven."

"THE BEST GIFT WHICH GOD HAS GIVEN MAN."

(*Reply to a committee of loyal colored people of Baltimore, who presented the President with a Bible, October, 1864.*)

"I can only say now, as I have often said before, that it has always been a sentiment with me that all
1864 mankind should be free. So far as I have been able, or so far as came within my sphere, I have always acted as I believed was right and just, and have done all I could for the good of mankind. I have in letters and documents sent forth from this office expressed myself better than I can now.

"In regard to the Great Book I have only to say that it is the best gift which God has given man.

"All the good from the Saviour of the world is communicated to us through this book. But for this book we could not know right from wrong. All those things desirable to man are contained in it."

Our children shall behold his fame,
The kindly, earnest, foreseeing man,
Sagacious, patient, dreading praise, not blame,
New birth of new soil, the first American.

—*James Russell Lowell.*

REGARDING MARYLAND'S PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION.

(Letter to Henry W. Hoffman, of Maryland, October 18, 1864.)

"A convention of Maryland has formed a new constitution for the State; a public meeting is called for this evening at Baltimore, to aid in securing its ratification, and you ask a word from me for the occasion. 1864

"I presume the only feature of the instrument about which there is serious controversy is that which provides for the extinction of slavery.

"It needs not to be a secret, and I presume it is no secret, that I wish success to this provision. I desire it on every constitution; I wish to see all men free. I wish the national prosperity of the already free, which I feel sure the extinction of slavery would bring.

"I wish to see in progress of disappearing that only thing which could bring this nation to a civil war.

"I attempt no argument. Argument upon the question is already exhausted by the abler, better informed, and more immediately interested sons of Maryland herself.

"I only add that I shall be gratified exceedingly

Pure was thy life; its bloody close
Has placed thee with the sons of light,
Among the noblest host of those
Who perished in the cause of right.

—*William C. Bryant.*

if the good people of the State shall by their votes ratify the new constitution."

MARYLAND ADOPTS A CONSTITUTION ABOLISHING SLAVERY.

(*Response to a serenading party of loyal Marylanders, at the White House, October 19, 1864.*)

"Most heartily do I congratulate you and Maryland, and the nation, and the world upon the event,

1864

I regret that it did not occur two years sooner; which, I am sure, would have saved to the nation more money than would have met all the private loss incident to the measure. But it has come at last, and I sincerely hope its friends may fully realize all their anticipations of good from it, and that its opponents may, by its effects, be agreeably and profitably disappointed.

"I am struggling to maintain the Government, not to overthrow it; I am struggling especially to prevent others from overthrowing it. I therefore say that, if I shall live, I shall remain President until the 4th of next March, and that whoever shall be constitutionally elected, therefore, in November, shall be duly installed as President on the 4th of March, and that, in the interval, I shall do my utmost that whoever is to hold the helm for the

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The flowers which were to decorate the Easter festival were laid upon his coffin, and we who had hoped to go in faith to the empty sepulcher and sing our carols of the Resurrection, stood by a newly made grave, which received all that was mortal of the Chief Magistrate of the land.—*Wm. A. Snively.*

next voyage shall start with the best possible chance to save the ship.

"This is due the people both on principle and under the Constitution. Their will, constitutionally

1864 expressed, is the ultimate law for all. If they should deliberately resolve to have immediate peace, even at the loss of their country and their liberties, I have not the power or the right to resist them. It is their own business, and they must do as they please with their own. I believe, however, they are still resolved to preserve their country and their liberty, and, in this office or out, I am resolved to stand by them.

"I may add that, in this purpose to save the country and its liberties, no class of people seem so nearly unanimous as the soldiers in the field and seamen afloat. Do they not have the hardest of it? Who should quail while they do not?

"God bless the soldiers and seamen, with all their brave commanders!"

THANKS GENERAL SHERIDAN AND HIS ARMY.

(*Dispatch to General P. H. Sheridan, October 22, 1864.*)

"With great pleasure I tender to you and your brave army the thanks of the nation and my own

1864 personal admiration and gratitude for the month's operations in the Shenandoah val-

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Abraham Lincoln, the ablest of them all! He lived and died an honest man.—*Rufus Hatch.*

ley, and especially for the splendid work of October 19, 1864."

"I THEN AND THERE CONSECRATED MYSELF TO CHRIST."

(*Reply to an Illinois clergyman, who asked Mr. Lincoln if he was a Christian.*)

"When I left Springfield, I asked the people to pray for me; I was not a Christian. When I buried my son, the severest trial of my life, 1864 I was not a Christian. But when I went to Gettysburg, and saw the graves of thousands of our soldiers, I then and there consecrated myself to Christ. I *do* love Jesus."

GREATEST CREDIT DUE THE COMMON SOLDIER.

(*Remarks to the 189th N. Y. Infantry Regiment, October 24, 1864.*)

"It is said that we have the best government the world ever knew, and I am glad to meet you, the supporters of that government. To you, 1864 who rendered the hardest work in its support, should be given the greatest credit. Others

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Amid the doings of the great of every clime will his deeds be recorded. Among the teachings of the wise will his sayings be written. His is a name that will not be forgotten. The living of to-day will tell it to the unborn, and they in turn will repeat it to the remotest age.—*William H. H. Murray.*

who are connected with it, and who occupy higher positions—their duties can be dispensed with; but we cannot get along without your aid. While others differ with the administration, and, perhaps, honestly, the soldiers generally have sustained it; they have not only fought right, but, so far as could be judged from their actions, they have voted right, and I, for one, thank you for it."

RESPONSE TO A SERENADE BY A CLUB OF PENNSYLVANIANS.

(*At the White House, late on the night of the election, November 9, 1864.*)

"I cannot, at this hour, say what has been the result of the election; but whatever it may have been, I have no desire to modify this opinion, that all who have labored to-day in behalf of the Union organization have wrought for the best interests of their country and the world, not only for the present, but for all future ages.

1864

"I am thankful to God for this approval of the people. But, while deeply grateful for this mark of their confidence in me, if I know my heart, my gratitude is free from any taint of personal triumph. I do not impugn the motives of

1864

His heart was as warm, his nature as simple, his purpose as honest, his judgment as strong and clear, his head as cool amid all the grandeur and glory of the nation's palace and the shaping of the nation's course and policy, as they were beneath the humble roof of his private dwelling.—*Samuel K. Lothrop.*

anyone opposed to me. It is no pleasure to me to triumph over anyone, but I give thanks to the Almighty for this evidence of the people's resolution to stand by free government and the rights of humanity."

SPEECH TO CAMPAIGN CLUBS.

(*Assembled at the White House to serenade the President on the night of November 10, 1864.*)

"It has long been a grave question whether any government, not too strong for the liberties of its
1864 people, can be strong enough to maintain its existence in great emergencies. On this point the present rebellion brought our government to a severe test, and a Presidential election, occurring in a regular course during the rebellion, added not a little to the strain.

"If the loyal people united were put to the utmost of their strength by the rebellion, must they
1864 not fail when divided and partially paralyzed by a political war among themselves? But the election was a necessity.

"We cannot have free governments without elections; and if the rebellion could force us to forego or postpone a national election, it might fairly claim to have already conquered and ruined us.

In four hours after Abraham Lincoln died, Andrew Johnson of Tennessee was inaugurated President of the United States. Our government rests upon the basis of liberty, justice, and humanity, and our glorious fabric will continue to stand and tower, the admiration of the world.—*Charles Backman.*

"The strife of the election is but human nature practically applied to the facts of the case.

"Human nature will not change. In any future great national trial, compared with the men of this, we will have as weak and as strong, as silly and as wise, as bad and as good. Let us, therefore, study the incidents of this as philosophy to learn wisdom from, and none of them as wrongs to be revenged.

"But the election, along with its incidental and undesirable strife, has done good, too. It has demonstrated that a people's government can sustain a national election in the midst of a great civil war. Until now, it has not been known to the world that this was a possibility. It shows, also, how sound and how strong we still are. It shows, also, to the extent yet known, that we have more men now than we had when the war began. Gold is good in its place; but living, brave, and patriotic men are better than gold.

1864

"So long as I have been here I have not willingly planted a thorn in anyone's bosom. While I am duly sensible to the high compliment of a re-election, and duly grateful, as I trust, to Almighty God for having directed my countrymen to a right conclusion, as I think, for their good, it adds nothing to my satisfaction that any other man may be disappointed by the result.

"May I ask those who have not differed with me to join with me in this spirit toward those who have."

A thousand years hence, no story, no tragedy, no epic poem will be filled with greater wonder or be read with deeper feeling than that which tells of his life and death.—*Henry Watterson.*

"ONLY MORTAL, AFTER ALL."

(*Remarks to a friend in a conversation on the Presidential election.*)

"Being only mortal, after all, I should have been a little mortified if I had been beaten in this can-
1864 vass before the people; but that sting would have been more than compensated by the thought that the people had notified me that all my official responsibilities were soon to be lifted off my back."

A LETTER OF GRATITUDE.

(*Written to Deacon John Phillips of Stockbridge, Mass., who, though 104 years old, voted for President Lincoln in November, 1864.*)

"I have heard of the incident at the polls in your town, in which you acted so honorable a part,
1864 and I take the liberty of writing to you to express my personal gratitude for the compliment paid me by the suffrage of a citizen so venerable.

"The example of such devotion to civic duties in one whose days have already been extended an average lifetime beyond the Psalmist's limits, cannot but be valuable and fruitful. It is not for

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His words and his deeds were one. The grand unity of truth wrought them into its clear consistency. Few men have lived who held over the people, by simple integrity, such prevailing power, or demonstrated to the world such a scope of uprightness.—*Henry Fowler.*

myself only, but for the country which you have in your sphere served so long and so well, that I thank you."

RATIFYING THE ELECTION.

(*Speech at a meeting in front of the White House, November 20, 1864.*)

"I thank you, in common with all others who have thought fit by your votes to indorse the Republican cause. Yet in all our rejoicing let us neither express, nor cherish, any harsh feeling towards any citizen who by his vote has differed with us.

1864

"Let us at all times remember that all American citizens are brothers of a common country, and should dwell together in the bonds of fraternal feeling."

LETTER TO A GRIEF-STRICKEN MOTHER.

(*To Mrs. Bixby of Boston, Mass., November 21, 1864.*)

"I have been shown on the file of the War Department a statement of the adjutant general of Massachusetts, that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle. I feel how weak and fruitless must

1864

Mr. Lincoln's mind was slow, angular, and ponderous, rather than quick and finely discriminating, and *in time* his great powers of reason on cause and effect, on creation and relation, on substance and on truth, would form a proposition, an opinion, wisely and well. —*F. B. Carpenter.*

be any word of mine which should attempt to beguile you from the grief of a loss so overwhelming; but I cannot refrain from tendering to you the consolation that may be found in the thanks of the republic they died to save.

"I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement, and leave only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom."

1864

"OUR PEOPLE CAN AFFORD TO BE MAGNANIMOUS."

(*Interview with Charles Maltby, December, 1864.*)

"My own feelings have also changed much in that direction, and I am much gratified to see that it is the growing sentiment of the people. In the final success of the Union cause, our people can afford to be magnanimous and still be just. I can see and feel that there are many reasons why this should be so.

1864

"We have not been fighting aliens, but misled, misguided friends and brothers, members of our own household; and we may grant and forgive much when we take into consideration what have been

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And his last act (Oh, gentle, kindly heart!),
The noble prompting of unselfish grace,
He would not disappoint the waiting crowd,
Who came to gaze upon his honored face.

—*Lucy Hamilton Hooper.*

the teachings and influences which have formed and molded the public sentiments and private feelings of that people. And now, when final success is obtained, which appears assured, I think the great object then to be first accomplished and to have in view, should be to bring back and restore the relation of the several rebel States to the Union and to their original and former standing. This may be done in a spirit of conciliation, friendship, and forbearance which should characterize a generous and forgiving people. To effect this desirable object, I think that we should deal with them as generously as the interests of the government and the public safety will permit."

FOURTH ANNUAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, DECEMBER 6, 1864.

"The most remarkable feature in the military operations of the year is General Sherman's attempted march of three hundred miles directly through the insurgent region. It tends to show a great increase of our relative strength that our general-in-chief should feel able to confront and hold in check every active force of the enemy, and yet to detach a well-appointed large army to move on such an expedition. The result

1864

In her furnace the centuries had welded
Their fetter and chain;
And like withes, in the hands of his purpose,
He snapped them in twain.

—*Phœbe Cary.*

not yet being known, conjecture in regard to it is not here indulged.

"Important movements have also occurred during the year to the effect of molding society for durability in the Union. Although short of complete success, it is much in the right direction that twelve thousand citizens in each of the States of Arkansas and Louisiana have organized loyal State governments, with free constitutions, and are earnestly struggling to maintain and administer them. The movements in the same dirction—more extensive, though less definite—in Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee should not be overlooked. But Maryland presents the example of complete success. Maryland is secure to liberty and union for all the future. The genius of rebellion will no more claim Maryland. Like another foul spirit, being driven out, it may seek to tear her, but it will woo her no more.

1864

"In presenting the abandonment of armed resistance to the national authority on the part of the insurgents, as the only indispensable condition to ending the war on the part of the government, I retract nothing heretofore said as to slavery.

"I repeat the declaration, made a year ago, that while I remain in my present position I shall not attempt to retract or modify the emancipation proclamation, nor shall I return to slavery any per-

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For unselfish devotion to the public welfare, purity of character, freedom from partisanship and personal ambition, and ability to comprehend and deal with the momentous questions at issue in our great struggle for national existence, he was first among the ablest statesmen and most loyal men of his time.—*T. S. Arthur.*

son who is free by the terms of that proclamation, or by any of the acts of Congress.

"If the people should, by whatever mode or means, make it an executive duty to re-enslave such persons, another, and not I, must be their instrument to perform it.

"In stating a single condition of peace, I mean simply to say that the war will cease on the part of the government whenever it shall have ceased on the part of those who began it."

"ALL ANIMATED BY THE SAME DETERMINATION."

(*Reply to an invitation to attend the annual festival of the New England Society, December 22, 1864, to commemorate the landing of the Pilgrims.*)

"I cannot but congratulate you and the country, however, upon the spectacle of devoted unanimity, presented by the people at home, the citizens 1864 that form our marching columns, and the citizens that fill our squadrons on the sea, all animated by the same determination to complete the work our fathers began and transmitted.

"The work of the Plymouth emigrants was the glory of their age. While we reverence their

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To the young men I would say, Listen to him, imitate his glorious life, live like him, for God, your country, and the rights of all men. Be pure in heart and purpose as was your great President. Be loyal as he was loyal. Let the inspiration of his memory be one of the guiding stars of your future life.—*M. P. Gaddis.*

memory, let us not forget how vastly greater is our opportunity."

"EVER ANXIOUS TO AID THE GOOD CAUSE."

(*Reply to an invitation from the lady managers of a soldiers' fair, held at Springfield, Mass., in December, 1864.*)

"Grateful for the compliment, and ever anxious to aid the good cause in which you are engaged, I
1864 yet am compelled, by public duties here, to decline your kind invitation. The recent good news from Generals Sherman, Thomas, and, indeed, from nearly all quarters, will be far better than my presence, and will afford all the impulse and enthusiasm you will want."

GOD WILL CONTROL THE HEARTS OF THE PEOPLE.

(*Reply to Messrs. Wilson, of Iowa, and Casey of Kentucky, when one said "he had faith that Providence is with us."*)

"I have a higher faith than yours. I have faith,
1864 not only that God is with our cause, but that He will control the hearts of the people so that they will be faithful to it, too."

His had been the most fearful responsibility under which man had stood in modern times—responsibility which had furrowed brow and cheek with ceaseless cares and great anxieties—and he was barely permitted to taste the rewards of a faithful stewardship.—*William T. Wilson.*

CARE AND ANXIETY OF THE PRESIDENT.

(*Remarks to Charles Maltby, who called to see the President in December, 1864.*)

"Since the people called me to the position I now occupy, four years ago, I cannot recall
1864 a day devoid of care and anxiety.

"While the physical labors during that period have been beyond description, the mental excitements, responsibilities, and hopes, followed by disappointments, have worn me away as you see me to-day.

"But I see now much to hope for the future; the people have, by their votes, approved, thus far, my administration and policy, and the positions of Generals Grant and Sherman with their armies give assurance that the days of the rebellion are drawing to a close."

HONOR TO GENERAL SHERMAN.

(*Dispatch to General Sherman, December 26, 1864.*)

"When you were about leaving Atlanta for the Atlantic Coast, I was anxious, if not fearful; but feeling that you were the better judge, and
1864 remembering that 'nothing risked, nothing

Who can say that the President did not lay down his life by the firmness of his devotion to a great duty? The name of Lincoln will remain one of the greatest that history has to inscribe on its annals. —*Merle D'Aubigné.*

gained,' I did not interfere. Now, the undertaking being a success, the honor is all yours; for I believe none of us went further than to acquiesce."

WILL FAVOR THE SOLDIERS OF THE NATION.

(*Reply to an address from the Bureau of the Employment of disabled and discharged soldiers.*)

"It gives me pleasure to assure you of my hearty concurrence with the purpose you announce, and I shall at all times be ready to recognize the paramount claims of the soldiers of the nation in the disposition of public trusts. I shall be glad, also, to make these suggestions to the several heads of departments."

1864

PRINCETON COLLEGE CONFERS THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF LAWS.

(*Letter of thanks, December 27, 1864.*)

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 20th of December, conveying the announcement that the Trustees of the College of New Jersey had conferred upon me the degree of Doctor of Laws.

1864

He has never betrayed or deserted a principle. When his positions have finally been taken, he has stood like a shaft of adamant in a stormy ocean, which no howling of the storm or dashing of the waves could shake.—*J. D. Strong.*

"The assurance, conveyed by this high compliment, that the course of the Government which I represent has received the approval of a body of gentlemen of such character and intelligence, in this time of public trial, is most grateful to me.

"Thoughtful men must feel that the fate of civilization upon this continent is involved in the issue of our contest. Among the most gratifying proofs of this conviction is the hearty devotion everywhere exhibited by our schools and colleges to the national cause. I am most thankful if my labors have seemed to conduce to the preservation of those institutions under which alone we can expect good government and in its train sound learning and the progress of the liberal arts."

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF A VASE OF SKELETON FLOWERS FROM THE BATTLEFIELD OF GETTYSBURG.

(*Presented by some ladies, January, 1865.*)

"I accept with emotions of profoundest gratitude the beautiful gift you have been pleased to present to me. So much has been said about Gettysburg, and so well, that for me to attempt to say more may perhaps only serve to

1865

When the fragments of his history, now reposing in the hearts of those whom he befriended, in the hearts of his associates in council, in official actions and State papers, have all been brought together by competent hands, then will his character appear brighter and brighter.—*H. L. Morehouse.*

weaken the force of that which has already been said.

"A most graceful and eloquent tribute was paid to the patriotism and self-denying labors of the American ladies on the occasion of the consecration of the National Cemetery at Gettysburg by our illustrious friend Edward Everett, now, alas! departed from earth.

"His life was a truly great one, and I think the greatest part of it was that which crowned its closing years. I wish you to read—if you have not already done so—the eloquent and truthful words which he then spoke of the women of America. Truly, the service they have rendered to the defenders of our country in this perilous time, and are yet rendering, can never be estimated as they ought to be."

"WITH MALICE TOWARD NONE, WITH CHARITY FOR ALL."

(*Second Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865.*)

"Fellow-countrymen: At this second appearing to take the oath of the Presidential office, there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then a statement, somewhat in detail, of a course to be pursued seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration

1865

He offered no shining qualities at the first encounter; he did not offend by superiority; he had a face and manner which disarmed suspicion, which inspired confidence, which confirmed good will.—*Ralph W. Emerson.*

of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented.

"The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself, and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

"On the occasion corresponding to this, four years ago, all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it; all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to saving the Union without war, insurgents' agents were in the city seeking to destroy it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union and divide its effects by negotiation.

"Both parties deprecated war; but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish. And the war came.

"The prayer of both could not be answered—those of neither have been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. 'Woe unto the world because of offenses! for it must needs be that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh.'

And upon nothing will memory more delight to dwell than upon that high, forgiving temper which lifts up a fallen foe, restores a wandering brother, and repays the cruelty of hatred by an overcoming benignity and love.—*Stephen H. Tyng.*

"If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offenses which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time, He now wills to remove, and that He gives to North and South this terrible war as the woe due to those by whom the offense came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him?

"Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may soon pass away.

"Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn by the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, 'The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.'

"*With malice toward none, with charity for all*, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and for his orphan; to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

Greater difficulties than his no one ever met; heavier responsibilities than his never burdened any human soul, and through the whole he has borne himself with a calmness, a patience, a perseverance, a steadfastness of aim, an honesty of purpose, a fidelity to his country, that will assign to him an eminent place in the history of the world.—*Samuel T. Spear.*

"NO CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES SHORT OF THE END OF THE WAR."

(*Instructions given to Wm. H. Seward, at the meeting of Messrs. Stevens, Hunter, and Campbell at Fortress Monroe, Va., January 31, 1865.*)

"First, the restoration of the national authority throughout all the States; second, no receding by the Executive of the United States, on the slavery question, from the position assumed thereon in the late annual message to Congress and in the preceding documents; no cessation of hostilities short of the end of the war and the disbanding of all the forces hostile to the government."

1865

REGARDING HIS SECOND ANNUAL ADDRESS.

(*Letter to Thurlow Weed, March 15, 1865.*)

"Everyone likes a compliment. Thank you for yours on my little notification speech and on the recent inaugural address. I expect the latter to wear as well as, perhaps better than, anything I have produced; but I believe it is not immediately popular.

1865

"Men are not flattered by being shown that there

His public career, from the lowest station to the highest, was singularly pure. It challenges investigation. To him as rightfully as to any man in all the land, was applied by his admiring countrymen the term *honest.*—*John Farquhar.*

has been a difference of purpose between the Almighty and them.

"To deny it, however, in this case is to deny that there is a God governing the world.

"It is a truth which I thought needed to be told, and, as whatever of humiliation there is in it falls most directly on myself, I thought others might afford for me to tell it."

AT THE PRESENTATION OF A CAPTURED FLAG.

Remarks to the 140th Indiana Volunteers, in front of the National Hotel, Washington, March 17, 1865, upon the presentation by the regiment of a captured flag to Governor O. P. Morton of Indiana:

"I was born in Kentucky, raised in Indiana, and lived in Illinois; and now I am here, where it is my
1865 business to care equally for the good people of all the States. I am glad to see an Indiana regiment on this day able to present the captured flag to the Governor of Indiana. I am not disposed, in saying this, to make a distinction between the States; for all have done equally well."

War at his feet his thundering trump had dashed,
And Peace was taking up her warbling lyre,
And flowers were burying soft the thorns, when flashed,
How quick! how deadly, the assassin's fire!

—*Alfred B. Street.*

WITH GRANT AT CITY POINT.

Having a great desire to see the Army of the Potomac, the President visited General Grant's headquarters at City Point. While at the front, he telegraphed Secretary of War Stanton as follows:

1865

"All seems well with us, and everything quiet just now."

HAPPIEST DAY OF THE FOUR YEARS.

The following remarks were made by the President to Admiral David D. Porter, while on board the flag-ship *Malvern*, on the James River in front of Richmond the day the city surrendered:

"Thank God, that I have lived to see this! It seems to me that I have been dreaming a horrid dream for four years, and now the nightmare is gone. I want to see Richmond."

1865

NEGROES KNEEL AT THE PRESIDENT'S FEET.

While the President was walking through the streets of Richmond, Va., April 4, 1865, some negroes knelt at his feet and thanked him for their

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Like the unfinished work of the artist, which needs only the slightest touch upon eye or mouth to round and complete the likeness, so the work of this patient and unpretending ruler needed but the touch of death to render it immortal.—*J. E. Rankin.*

freedom. The President replied, in his characteristic way, as follows:

"Don't kneel to me—that is not right. You must kneel to God only, and thank Him for the liberty you will hereafter enjoy; I am but
1865 God's humble instrument; but you may rest assured that as long as I live no one shall put a shackle on your limbs, and you shall have all the rights which God has given to every other free citizen of this republic."

REMARKS TO NEGROES IN THE STREETS OF RICHMOND.

The President walked through the streets of Richmond—without a guard except a few seamen—in company with his son "Tad," and Admiral Porter, on the 4th of April, 1865, the day following the evacuation of the city. Colored people gathered about him on every side, eager to see and thank their liberator. Mr. Lincoln addressed the following remarks to one of these gatherings:

"My poor friends, you are free—free as air. You can cast off the name of slave and trample upon it;
1865 it will come to you no more. Liberty is your birthright. God gave it to you as he gave it to others, and it is a sin that you have been deprived of it for so many years.

Like the mighty oak which towers far above its fellows here, he was a growth of the forces of nature, and one cannot resist the conclusion that he was prepared, in a special sense, by God, for the work he had to do.—*Willard Warner.*

"But you must try to deserve this priceless boon. Let the world see that you merit it, and are able to maintain it by your good works. Don't let your joy carry you into excesses; learn the laws, and obey them. Obey God's commandments, and thank Him for giving you liberty, for to Him you owe all things. There, now, let me pass on; I have but little time to spare. I want to see the Capitol, and must return at once to Washington to secure to you that liberty which you seem to prize so highly."

SHAKES HANDS WITH OVER SIX THOUSAND SOLDIERS.

Remarks made by the President to the Medical Director, at City Point, Va., April 8, 1865, when he devoted the whole day to shaking hands with over six thousand soldiers in the hospitals, giving them words of cheer and sympathy, as from a father to his children:

"I have come to see the boys who have fought the battles of the country, and particularly the battles which resulted in the evacuation of Richmond. I desire to take these men by the hand, as it will probably be my last opportunity of meeting them."

1865

Over our Washington's river,
Sunrise beams rosy and fair;
Sunset on Sangamon fairer;
Father and martyr lies there.

—*Edna Dean Proctor.*

NOT SCARED ABOUT HIMSELF.

Reply to Schuyler Colfax, when told how uneasy all had been at his going to Richmond:

1865 "Why, if anyone else had been President, and had gone to Richmond, I would have been alarmed; but I was not scared about myself a bit."

TO A PARTY OF SERENADERS BEFORE THE WHITE HOUSE.

(*Assembled on the afternoon of April 10, 1865.*)

1865 "I am informed that you have assembled here this afternoon under the impression that I had made an appointment to speak at this time. This is a mistake. I have made no such appointment. More or less persons have been gathered here at different times during the day, and in the exuberance of their feeling, and for all of which they are greatly justified, calling upon me to say something, and I have from time to time been sending out what I suppose was proper to disperse them for the present. I therefore say to you that I shall be quite willing, and I hope ready, to say something when a general demonstration takes place; whereas just now I am not ready to say any-

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Born in the humblest walks of life, and unaided by education or by fortune, Abraham Lincoln, by his own endeavors and native resources, attained to the highest honor of the Republic.—*David Davis.*

thing that one in my position ought to say. Everything I say, you know, goes into print. If I make a mistake, it doesn't merely affect me, or you, but the country. I, therefore, ought at least try not to make mistakes."

"'DIXIE,' OUR LAWFUL PRIZE."

(*Speech at a gathering before the White House in the forenoon of April 10, 1865, rejoicing over the surrender of Lee's army.*)

"I am very greatly rejoiced that an occasion has occurred so pleasurable that the people can't restrain themselves. I suppose that arrange-
1865 ments are being made for some sort of formal demonstration, perhaps this evening or tomorrow night. If there should be such a demonstration, I, of course, shall have to respond to it, and I shall have nothing to say if I dribble it out before.

"I see you have a band. I propose now closing up by requesting you to play a certain air, or tune. I have always thought 'Dixie' one of the best tunes I ever heard. I have heard that our adversaries over the way have attempted to appropriate it as a national air. I insisted yesterday that we had fairly captured it. I presented the question to

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We cannot overrate the value to us of those steady nerves, those lithe, tough muscles, that hardy, robust frame, which had been secured, in so great degree, by the wholesome habits of his early life.—*Henry A. Nelson.*

the Attorney General, and he gave his opinion that it is our lawful prize. I ask the band to give us a good turn upon it."

LAST PUBLIC ADDRESS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

(*Remarks on April 11, 1865, to a gathering at the White House on the fall of Richmond.*)

"We meet this evening not in sorrow, but in gladness of heart.

"The evacuation of Petersburg and Richmond, and the surrender of the principal insurgent army, give hope of a righteous and speedy peace, whose joyous expression cannot be restrained. 1865

"In the midst of this, however, He from whom all blessings flow must not be forgotten. Nor must those whose harder part give us the cause of rejoicing be overlooked; their honors must not be parceled out with others.

"I myself was near the front, and had the high pleasure of transmitting the good news to you; but no part of the honor, for plan or execution, is mine. To General Grant, his skillful officers and brave men, all belongs."

At the hour of his death he occupied the loftiest pinnacle of honor ever reached by man. This leader of such a nation in its supreme crisis, foremost in the files of time, was likewise, through the mercy of God, invested with a heritage in the celestial kingdom.—*Wheelock Craig.*

ONE OF THE LAST LETTERS WRITTEN BY THE PRESIDENT.

The following letter was written by the President, under date of April 14, 1865, to General Van Allen of New York, who had asked Mr. Lincoln not to expose his life unnecessarily, as he had done at Richmond, and assuring him of the earnest desire of all of his countrymen to close the war he had so successfully conducted.

"I intend to adopt the advice of my friends and use precaution. I thank you for the assurance you give me that I shall be supported by conservative men like yourself in the efforts I may make to restore the Union, so as to make it, to use your own language, a union of hearts and hands as well as of States."

1865

LAST VERBAL MESSAGE.

(*A verbal message given to Hon. Schuyler Colfax, April 14, 1865, for the miners of the West.*)

"I want you to take a message from me to the miners whom you visit. I have very large ideas of the mineral wealth of our nation. I believe it practically inexhaustible. It abounds all over the Western country, from the Rocky Moun-

1865

Plain in body and mind, simple and direct in speech, great, rugged, sincere, a passionate lover of liberty, trained in the people's school to be their own unyielding instrument, regarding their rights and prosperity.—*J. C. Black.*

tains to the Pacific, and its development has scarcely commenced.

"During the war, when we were adding a couple of millions of dollars every day to our national debt, I did not care about encouraging the increase in the volume of our precious metal. We had the country to save first. But, now that the rebellion is overthrown, and we know pretty nearly the amount of our national debt, the more gold and silver we mine makes the payment of that debt so much the easier. Now, I am going to encourage that in every possible way.

"We shall have hundreds of thousands of disbanded soldiers, and many have feared that their return home in such great numbers might paralyze industry by furnishing suddenly a greater supply of labor than there will be a demand for.

"I am going to try and attract them to the hidden wealth of our mountain ranges, where there is room enough for all. Immigration, which even the war has not stopped, will land upon our shores hundreds of thousands more per year from overcrowded Europe. I intend to point them to the gold and silver that waits for them in the West.

"Tell the miners, from me, that I shall promote their interests to the utmost of my ability, because their prosperity is the prosperity of the nation; and we shall prove, in a very few years, that we are, indeed, *the treasury of the world.*"

He sought to make every man better and happier. He delighted in opportunities to sympathize with the suffering and sorrowing, and in smoothing the pillow of a dying soldier, or in listening to the grief of a stricken mother.—*R. Jeffery.*

HOUSE IN WHICH LINCOLN DIED. 516 10TH STREET, WASHINGTON, D. C.

REMARKS TO HIS WIFE ON THE FATAL DAY.

(*Remarks made by the President to his wife while they were out driving in an open carriage on the afternoon of April 14, 1865, when Mrs. Lincoln said: "You almost startle me by your cheerfulness."*)

"And well I may feel so, Mary, for I consider this day the war has come to a close. We must both be more cheerful in the future; be-
1865 tween the war and the loss of our darling Willie, we have been very miserable."

LAST WRITTEN WORDS OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Given to Mr. Ashmun as the President and Mrs. Lincoln were leaving the White House, a few minutes before eight o'clock, on the evening of April 14, 1865:

"Allow Mr. Ashmun and friend to come to me
1865 at 9 o'clock A. M., to-morrow, April 15, 1865."

Sleep there calmly, thou under whose administration a race has broken its shackles and risen from its degradation. Over thy bier that race has shed more heartfelt tears than ever before moistened the couch of an earthly ruler.—*John Chester*,

LINCOLN MONUMENT, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

In this monument sleeps the Apostle of Liberty.

J. L. BEVERIDGE.

TRIBUTES.

CHIEFTAIN, farewell! The nation mourns thee. Mothers shall teach thy name to their lisping children. The youth of our land shall emulate thy virtues. Statesmen shall study thy record, and learn lessons of wisdom. Mute though thy lips be, yet they still speak. Hushed is thy voice, but its echoes of liberty are ringing through the world, and the sons of bondage listen with joy.

MATTHEW SIMPSON.

Four years ago, oh, Illinois, we took him from your midst, an untried man from among the people. Behold, we return him a mighty conqueror. Not thine, but the nation's; not ours, but the world's! Give him place, ye prairies! In the midst of this great continent his dust shall rest, a sacred treasure to myriads who shall pilgrim to that shrine, to kindle anew their zeal and patriotism.

HENRY WARD BEECHER.

The grave that receives the remains of Lincoln receives the costly sacrifice to the Union; the monument which will rise over his body will bear witness to the Union; his enduring memory will assist during countless ages to bind the States together, and to incite to the love of our one undivided, indivisible country.

GEORGE BANCROFT.

Abraham Lincoln mastered the problem committed to his hands. He felt that he was acting not merely for a single hour, but for all time. The question for decision was, "Whether this nation, or any other nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all are equal, can long endure."

GEORGE W. BRIGGS.

A man of great ability, pure patriotism, unselfish nature, full of forgiveness to his enemies, bearing malice toward none, he proved to be the man above all others for the struggle through which the nation had to pass to place itself among the greatest in the family of nations. His fame will grow brighter as time passes and his great work is better understood.

U. S. GRANT.

A statesman of the school of sound common sense, and a philanthropist of the most practical type, a patriot without a superior—his monument is a country preserved.

C. S. HARRINGTON.

For many a year, and many an age,
While history on her ample page
The virtues shall enroll
Of that paternal soul!

RICHARD HENRY STODDARD.

He ascended the mount where he could see the fair fields and the smiling vineyards of the promised land. But, like the great leader of Israel, he was not permitted to come to the possession.

SETH SWEETSER.

In his freedom from passion and bitterness; in his acute sense of justice; in his courageous faith in the right, and his inextinguishable hatred of wrong; in warm and heartfelt sympathy and mercy; in his coolness of judgment; in his unquestioned rectitude of intention—in a word, in his ability to lift himself for his country's sake above all mere partisanship, in all the marked traits of his character combined, he has had no parallel since Washington, and while our republic endures he will live with him in the grateful hearts of his grateful countrymen.

SCHUYLER COLFAX.

Now all men begin to see that the plain people, who at last came to love him and to lean upon his wisdom, and trust him absolutely, were altogether right, and that in deed and purpose he was earnestly devoted to the welfare of the whole country, and of all its inhabitants.

R. B. HAYES.

At the moment when the stars of the Union, sparkling and resplendent with the golden fires of liberty, were waving over the subdued walls of Richmond the sepulcher opens, and the strong, the powerful enters it.

SR. REBELLO DA SILVA.

To him belongs the credit of having worked his way up from the humblest position an American freeman can occupy to the highest and most powerful, without losing, in the least, the simplicity and sincerity of nature which endeared him alike to the plantation slave and the metropolitan millionaire.

The most malignant party opposition has never been able to call in question the patriotism of his motives, or tarnish with the breath of suspicion the brightness of his spotless fidelity. Ambition did not warp, power corrupt, nor glory dazzle him.

WARREN H. CUDWORTH.

By his steady, enduring confidence in God, and in the complete ultimate success of the cause of God, which is the cause of humanity, more than in any other way does he now speak to us, and to the nation he loved and served so well.

P. D. GURLEY.

Abraham Lincoln was born, and, until he became President, always lived in a part of the country which, at the period of the Declaration of Independence, was a savage wilderness. Strange but happy Providence, that a voice from that savage wilderness, now fertile in men, was inspired to uphold the pledges and promises of the Declaration! The unity of the republic on the indestructible foundation of liberty and equality was vindicated by the citizen of a community which had no existence when the republic was formed.

A cabin was built in primitive rudeness, and the future President split the rails for the fence to inclose the lot. These rails have become classical in our history, and the name of rail-splitter has been more than the degree of a college. Not that the splitter of rails is especially meritorious, but because the people are proud to trace aspiring talent to humble beginnings, and because they found in this tribute a new opportunity of vindicating the dignity of free labor.

CHARLES SUMNER.

A brighter and yet more tender page of our country's history cannot be written than that which will refer to the words and deeds of Abraham Lincoln during the last month of his life.—*A. G. Thomas.*

As true to humanity as he had always been faithful to his country, his last words were a prayer and benediction for his enemies.—*Robert P. Porter.*

His life and character are substantial things in the world's history, upon which time, after a rigid scrutiny, will pass an irreversible judgment.—*Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.*

His name will ever be in the hearts of the American people, as green, as fresh, and as pleasant as is to the eyes the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain.—*Morgan Dix.*

I could wish that fitting words would offer themselves to me to add to the multitude of tributes to the memory of Abraham Lincoln.—*O. W. Holmes.*

I think all must be agreed, that in a trial which, perhaps more than any other, tested the moral quality of the man, he performed his duty with simplicity and strength.—*Benjamin Disraeli.*

The Emancipation Proclamation lifts him to a niche in the temple of fame an arrow's shot higher than any ever held by any living American.—*J. D. Fulton.*

He did not seek to say merely the thing that was for the day's debate, but the thing which would stand the test of time and square itself with eternal justice.—*James G. Blaine.*

Whatever you have of civil order, of civil law, is the free gift of Abraham Lincoln, the tenderness and charities of whom were as inevitable to his nature as light to the sun.—*Stephen A. Hurlbut.*

Anything which tends to bring the honest, true life of so grand a man to the thoughts and hearts of each generation is a worthy work.—*S. J. Kirkwood.*

His fame will grow brighter and grander as it descends the ages, and posterity will regard him as the incarnation of democracy in its pure childhood.—*Henry C. Dening.*

It was a hard life, a busy life, an American life, and a great life, and it rendered service to the country which can hardly be overestimated.—*Roscoe Conkling.*

Mr. Lincoln was lifted by the force of his unrivaled genius from the mass of the people, the immutable basis, the granite of our civilization, to an elevation of solitary grandeur.—*G. de la Matyr.*

He was a thorough American, carrying a calm mind and tender heart, with a firm sense of right, through the stormy period of civil strife.—*Howard Crosby.*

I believe that, under the providence of God, he was, next to Washington, the greatest instrument for the preservation of the Union and the integrity of the country.—*Peter Cooper.*

The peer of the proudest monarch, and in every position the same plain, honest, prudent man—safe in council, wise in action, and pure in purpose.—*John C. New.*

He spoke to all mankind words of patriotism, admonition, and pathos which will continue to sound through the ages as long as the flowers shall bloom or the waters flow.—*Alexander H. Rice.*

He was a good father to his children, and a good president to the people, whom he loved as if they had been his children.—*Charles Godfrey Leland.*

Abraham Lincoln is one of the most commanding figures in history. The world has confirmed and history has recorded it. When he died, it was as a conqueror.—*Samuel Adams Drake.*

A great, a good man has gone, in the fullness of his fame, in the height of his glory, to join the sages and patriots of the Revolutionary days.—*Benj. F. Butler.*

They all knew Mr. Lincoln's characteristic clemency, and that the terms of the peace he was intent on were exceedingly mild.—*Gerrit Smith.*

No man could have endured so much without some recreation, and that humor was to him what a safety valve is to an engine.—*Hannibal Hamlin.*

He had a sterling common sense, a vein of humor, an unselfish patriotism, which secured for him a lasting place in the catalogue of the world's leaders.—*George P. Fisher.*

Had he lived, the long and bitter struggle over reconstruction would never have been initiated, and peace and prosperity would have followed the laying down of arms.—*Wm. F. Smith.*

He stands before us all, as he has stamped himself ineffaceably on the pure silver of the national heart, all fluent and melted in the fervid heat of the fiery war.—*Henry W. Foote.*

More distinctly than any other president since Washington, he irradiated the official pathway at all times and in all places with the conspicuous publicity of Christian ethics.—*Alex. H. Bullock.*

His mind was so vigorous, his comprehension exact and clear, and his judgment so sure, that he easily mastered the intricacies of his profession.—*Thomas Drummond.*

His heart knew no guile, but into its richest, deepest soil, tender love for the liberty of every man that breathes struck deep into its roots.—*Thomas Armitage.*

In the supreme crisis of American history, his faith in the ultimate triumph of popular institutions never failed him. By that faith he saved the nation.—*William C. Morey.*

Studying his grammar by the fire-light of a log cabin when a boy, he addressed the Senate and people from the capital of a great nation.—*James Freeman Clark.*

Never was the title honest so expressive of character. Honest not only in action and word, but also in thought and feeling and purpose. —*Horace Maynard.*

In every position in life, from his humble beginning to the present well-earned elevation, he has more than fulfilled the best hopes of his friends.—*Edward Bates.*

Nothing which can be done to perpetuate his fame, to keep him ever before the coming generations of his countrymen, should be omitted.—*C. F. Burnam.*

He believed that this people were in the especial keeping of Providence, and that it was his duty as President to await the expressed will of God, and then to act.—*George H. Hepworth.*

The elements of his character was a love of freedom and of law, perceptions of the right thing to do and the right time to do it, all regulated by a sober faith in divine Providence.—*A. Cleveland Coxe.*

He could receive counsel from a child and give counsel to a sage. The simple approached him with ease, and the learned approached him with deference.—*Frederick Douglass.*

His elevation to the highest honor within the gift of the people did not alter his feelings or deportment toward his acquaintances, however humble.—*G. S. Hubbard.*

Mr. Lincoln was one of those singular men whom the great unknown power brings upon the scenes of men's actions when momentous events are about to transpire.—*W. B. Franklin.*

His earnest desire seemed to be to end the war speedily without more bloodshed or devastation, and to restore all the men of both sections to their homes.—*W. T. Sherman.*

The dove was returning from the redeemed world with a branch of olive when the hand of the assassin struck down the emancipator of the race of slaves.—*Wm. Wilberforce Newton.*

An ardent patriot, shrewd, with large common sense, far-reaching foresight, firmness and tenacity of purpose, and possessing the largest sympathies.—*W. Strong.*

His memory will shine in ages to come like a fixed star in a cloudless night, on which continents may gaze with admiration.—*P. B. Day.*

Mr. Lincoln was the greatest man this country has produced. He was mortal, and yearned, above all things, for the final approval of mankind.—*Wm. D. Kelley.*

He had a sharp insight that cut through all the rind of sophistries to the core of difficult questions, leaving such light on the stroke that other minds could follow.—*A. L. Stone.*

It pleased him better to pardon than to punish, and to overcome his and the country's enemies by transforming them into friends.—*Samuel J. Nichols.*

We are indebted to him for the consistent example in private and public life, and for some of the noblest sentiments of humanity ever spoken.—*Elias Nason.*

There is not a man on the continent or globe that will or can say that Abraham Lincoln is his enemy, or that he deserved punishment or death for his individual acts.—*N. P. Banks.*

No man could talk to him upon public questions without being struck with the singular lucidity of his mind and the rapidity with which he fastened on the essential point.—*Titian J. Coffen.*

His genius, wisdom and goodness saved the Union. His great heart liberated the slaves.—*A. A. E. Taylor.*

He was a man of strong attachments, and his nature overflowed with the milk of human kindness.—*Alexander H. Stephens.*

The longing for unity and the return of brethren to a common center and home, had full possession of him.—*Wm. F. Morgan.*

There is little fear of our forgetting—there is little fear of the world's forgetting the name of Abraham Lincoln.—*John McClintock.*

His "firmness in the right, as God gave him to see," was to him faith, courage, patience, and boundless endurance.—*Joshua F. Speed.*

Whatever shall keep green the memory of Abraham Lincoln, let that be done.—*Clinton B. Fisk.*

Abraham Lincoln was a pure and honest man, and possessor of very superior abilities —*Charles Lanman.*

Along with a gentle, tender, yearning sympathy, he had the firmness of a rock and the courage of a lion.—*Emerson Bennett.*

Few men in the world's history have been privileged to do a work involving so much benefit to mankind.—*Newman Hall.*

He was as true to the right as the needle to the pole, in all storms and on every sea.—*E. B. Webb.*

That death ennobles Lincoln. The South gained nothing by this crime. Long live liberty! Long live the Republic!—*Victor Hugo.*

His name will brighten as it rises out of the conflicts of the war into the serene sky of history.—*J. M. Manning.*

The harvest of moral fruitage from his death will be the garnered legacy of the nation through the ages to come.—*William Hague.*

Coming ages can properly estimate the value of his services to this country and to human freedom in all lands.—*James Marvin.*

His life was one of true patriotism, and his character one of honesty and of the highest type of religious sentiment.—*Alex. Ramsey.*

The ripest and fairest fruit that has fallen from our American tree of civilization is Abraham Lincoln.—*R. B. Anderson.*

I regard him as one of the greatest men of our time. His fame is growing every day.—*Thos. Burk.*

His life, even at the moment it was taken away, was the most important and precious life in our whole land.—*Robert C. Winthrop.*

He had a heart open to all innocent pleasure and purged from the leaven of malice and uncharitableness.—*James E. Murdoch.*

He repelled no one ; he strove to make friends, not for himself so much as for the preservation of the government.—*J. P. Usher.*

The purity of his reputation ennobles every incident of his career, and gives significance to all the events of the past.—*W. D. Howells.*

In my conversations with him, I absorbed the firm conviction that Mr. Lincoln was at heart a Christian.—*Noah Porter.*

Abraham Lincoln was one of those few men at the sight of whom we trust and take courage.—*John Bascom.*

Mr. Lincoln was a genuine product of our democratic institutions and had a living faith in their permanency.—*Henry Wilson.*

Look down as deep as you may into his profound nature, you will see that it is clear as a moteless fountain.—*Gilbert Haven.*

He was simple in life, clear in his views of right and duty, firm in his will long before the flag of war was unfurled.—*David Swing.*

He combined the integrity of Washington with the humanity of Wilberforce.—*George W. Julian.*

He brought to the duties of the presidential office the best qualities of manhood.—*R. B. Ayers.*

Abraham Lincoln's greatness and worth lay in his simple manhood, he was a whole man, human to the core of his heart.—*Robert Collier.*

Lincoln was the ideal President, when the nation most wanted the right man in the right place.—*Henry W. Bellows.*

Abraham Lincoln was the kind of a man Carlyle in his better days taught us to worship as a hero.—*John Stuart Mill.*

The great President affords much that tends to advance all that is good and noble among men.—*John Bright.*

His love of honesty and fair dealings was one of his prominent characteristics; he never stooped to trickery.—*Geo. W. Minier.*

No hand was ever stretched toward liberty that was not grasped and championed and saved by Abraham Lincoln.—*F. W. Gunsaulus.*

There is in the crown of England no diamond whose luster will not pale before the name of Abraham Lincoln.—*Robert Ingersoll.*

President Lincoln excelled all his contemporaries in capacity for delay when action was fraught with peril, in the power of immediate and resolute decision when delays were dangerous.—*George S. Boutwell.*

The pages of the history of his times record the proofs of his courage and wisdom, and of his fidelity to his country and to human liberty.—*M. C. Meigs.*

He was just the man to strike with favor every person who knew toil and privation, for he experienced the severest privations from earliest boyhood to mature manhood.—*Leonard W. Volk.*

He was tested in every way through the great struggle, and his rare virtues will endear him to the American people the more they study his life.—*S. Wells Williams.*

He was a patriot and a wise man. His death was a calamity for the country, but it left his fame without a fault or criticism.—*Chas. A. Dana.*

Courts and kingdoms might be searched in vain for a prince who, by tradition and culture, had attained such wisdom in the government of men as had the son of the backwoods.—*Frederick Smyth.*

Just finishing his great work, just about to reap the harvest of all his toil, just showing how moderate and wise and tender he was going to be, he was cut down by an assassin.—*Chas. P. McIlvaine.*

The unwavering faith in a divine Providence began at his mother's knee, and ran like a thread of gold through all the inner experiences of his life.—*J. G. Holland.*

The greatness of his figure in our history stands so near and towers so high that it cannot be taken in at a glance in this generation.—*Joseph P. Bradley.*

His thoughts were his own ; they were fresh and original, and were clothed with a quaintness, a distinctness, a simplicity of style peculiar to himself.—*Charles Henry Hart.*

No one who knew him ever knew another man like him. He stands out from the whole world of his time, isolated and alone.—*Leonard Swett.*

If he had not the refinement of education, nor the artificial polish of society, yet he never repelled a child, nor crimsoned the cheek of a woman, nor wounded the self-respect of man.—*Charles B. Sedgwick.*

He knew how to put a great thought or argument in a few plain and simple words. Many of his sayings are like proverbs, and proverbs, we know, are the practical wisdom of men condensed in a few brief sentences.—*Peter Russell.*

Sprung from no royal line, without one drop of regal blood, unversed entirely in the sophistries, the intrigues, the hollow, heartless etiquette of courts. Uncouth, some said he was, but better be uncouth and honest than polished and a knave.—*William T. Sabine.*

He was with us during all the war ; the thought of him, his sagacity, his fidelity, his buoyant hope, has cheered us in seasons of despondency. We felt secure while he was at the helm, and were confident so long as he was not afraid.—*R. H. Neale.*

Humble in his estimate of his own abilities, yet confident of the sincerity and integrity of his aims and principles, he was ready to receive suggestions and advice from every source, and was accessible to the humblest man or woman in the land.—*H. Dunning.*

Loving his country with his whole heart, and yet room enough in that heart for kindness to the humblest fellow-creature, and compassion for every sufferer; but with no room for one vindictive feeling toward his own or even his country's foes.—*George Putman.*

I have not the ability to portray the character or recount the life of Abraham Lincoln. This will be done, and when it is done, the world will assign to Abraham Lincoln no inferior place among the greatest and the best of men.—*W. H. Hornblower.*

His large, generous, honest heart ever beat responsive to the interests of all the inhabitants of the land and indicated the deepest concern in their welfare. Their good was his aim and heart's desire; and their happiness his happiness.—*D. T. Carnahan.*

President Lincoln took up into his long arms, his capacious mind, his great heart, all the jarring elements of factions, all the differences of his friends, all the necessities of his enemies. He was patient with all, forgiving to a fault as a child.—*Hiram P. Crozier.*

He knew his opportunity. He did not take a step till it was time to take it—did not take it to retrace it. He took no backward steps, but from the first moved steadily forward toward the great end, all the while gaining ground and never losing it.—*Isaac E. Carey.*

To integrity of purpose, firmness of will, patience in investigation, unswerving fidelity to trust, and a deep impression of his accountability to the nation and to God, he added a thorough knowledge of the theory and principles of our government, and of men.—*D. Dyer.*

His illustrations, not unfrequently derived from the most humble and familiar source, were selected, not to adorn, but to give point to his speech, and because of their fitness to make his meaning clear to the great mass of men.—*James Cooper.*

His writings themselves are so full, so clear, so rich, so earnest, so reliant upon the nation and upon God, that now that the strife is over, we cannot read them without a thrill of enthusiasm.—*Charles Carroll Everett.*

Our leader saw the promised land, but was never to enter it. The sea, desert, the strifes and seditions, were past, and the land of plenty was before the people. But on Pisgah he died.—*Alonzo H. Quint.*

The door to honorable promotion and unlimited success in every walk of life is left wide open to merit, as well in the lower class as in the higher classes ; and the worthy poor have oftener gained honorable distinction in our country than the rich.—*Thomas Swaim.*

He has a monument more durable than brass in the hearts of the American people. He needs no marble, no emblazoned escutcheon. He lives forever in history, and is henceforth enrolled in the records of mankind among the great martyrs of liberty.—*Dr. Lord.*

Some men of courtly manners and courtly expressions criticised his homely ways and style of language ; but the people loved him, trusted him, and his clear, strong, sound utterances carried conviction. —*Gordon Hall.*

The bullet-shot that evening delivered has effectually nailed to the mast of the Ship of State the banner of emancipation, of universal, unconditional, uncompensated, and unrepealable enfranchisement.— *Wm. R. Williams.*

He felt himself swept out into the current of a purpose, as majestic in grandeur as it was celestial in origin ; the sublime purpose of Him to whom nations belong, to care for this Western Republic in the hour of its manifest peril.—*Charles S. Robinson.*

He was happy, too, in the time of his death. It was the sunrise of peace upon the land ; a momentary pang, he knew not whence or what it was, and he was happy in death.—*Wm. Ives Buddington.*

Lincoln was a man both of words and deeds ; his latter words are so interwoven with and constitute part of his deeds that both will survive—the latter, the root and stalk ; the former, the flower, of his fame.—*Henry C. Whitney.*

Abraham Lincoln, in my view, was charged with a divine mission, which he executed wisely and well, and is justly entitled to the reverence, gratitude, and love of all loyal citizens of our great republic.—*Neal Dow.*

He arrived at conclusions not by intuition, but by argument. This made him appear slow in difficult questions, but it gave him all the certainty of logic and the abiding convictions of duty. Once at a decision, he could not be moved from it.—*C. H. Fowler.*

There were men of might about his council board, scholars and statesmen, but none arose to his altitude, much less was either his master. His eye swept a wide horizon and descried clearly all within its circumference.—*T. M. Eddy.*

His great business was a single one, and that was to rebind the Union. There was but one method of doing it, and that was to *unbind the slave.* He did the latter, and thus accomplished the former.—*Cornelius H. Edgar.*

The tree of liberty is firmly planted upon our soil. Its roots strike into half a million of freedmen's graves; its center-root strikes to the bottom of Lincoln's grave. It is well watered by the blood of America's best.—*S. Reed.*

As the lapse of time shall smooth the asperities of a civil war, and shall throw its mellowing influences over the stories of his early life, his public services as President will stand without a rival or a peer in the day to which he belonged.—*Samuel F. Miller.*

His most striking characteristic was great *common sense.* That was the sheet anchor of his practical character. He always seemed to know when to speak and when to act, as well as when not to speak and not to act.—*J. P. Dailey.*

The President's last smiles were in thinking that the sad conscripts might be released, and the weary soldier soon discharged, and the wounded patriot soon on his own couch at home, telling his neighbors how he bravely fought his country's battles.—*Wm. M. Blackburn.*

When, in the very flush and glory of the triumphant progress of his armies, he showed a noble magnanimity of soul toward the vanquished, which stands as solitary among the history of rebellions, as our Republic does among the family of nations.—*J. F. Garrison.*

At City Point he moved down the long line of prostrate men—visiting each cot, taking the sick soldier by the hand, laying his hand on the pale brow, speaking a kind word to this one and that—till he had shed sunshine in every invalid's heart.—*Robert Lowry.*

When Victory hung out her glorious banner, he extended kindness, sympathy, forgiveness, for the suffering. Not one word of reproach, not a single taunt, not a whisper of revenge, not a desire for one degree of unnecessary sorrow.—*Mason Noble.*

He lived long enough to vindicate his policy in the conduct of the war, and to see the triumph of constitutional power—but not long enough to make a single mistake in the new field of duty, which was just opening before him.—*H. E. Niles.*

As we review his words and various state papers which came from his hand, they are stamped with a maturity of judgment which the annals of the future will inscribe. Few have equaled, and none excelled.—*C. C. Wallace.*

He was a frequent visitor in our camp, and we were enabled to observe his character in its most familiar aspects. He walked about among the soldiers in the freest manner, and with a kind word for everyone whom he met.—*Augustus Woodburn.*

Just as the blood and wounds of contending armies were drying up and healing on those silent and deserted battlefields, the chair of state sinks into the bier of death, on which lies that which was once the warm and useful life of Abraham Lincoln.—*David C. Coddington.*

We have had men who could take a higher intellectual grasp of any abstruse problem of statesmanship, but few have ever equaled, and none excelled, Lincoln in the practical, common-sense, and successful solution of the gravest problems ever presented in American

history. He possessed a peculiarly receptive and analytical mind. He sought information from every attainable source. He sought it persistently, weighed it earnestly, and in the end reached his own conclusions. When he had once reached a conclusion as to a public duty, there was no human power equal to the task of changing his purpose.—*A. K. McClure.*

His life has been of great good to this nation, because he "desired to be on the Lord's side," gave his voice for the freedom of the oppressed, and his life for the union of the States.—*John G. Fee.*

He will go down the dim aisles of the future with the torches of rejoicing flaming all around him, carried by four millions of a despised race, from whose limbs he struck the chains!—*J. Hazard Hartzell.*

INDEX.

PAGE

JOURNEY TO WASHINGTON, SPEECHES, REMARKS, ETC.

A Heart True to the Work, Buffalo, N. Y., February 16, 1861, ... 58

Add Star upon Star, Raising a New Flag over Independence Hall, February 22, 1861, ... 64

Arrival in Washington, Response to an Address of Welcome from the Mayor, February 27, 1861, . . 66

Behind the Cloud the Sun is Still Shining, Tolono, Ill., February 11, 1861, ... 52

Flag May Still Be Kept Flaunting Gloriously, The, State Legislature, Harrisburg, February 22, 1861, . . 65

Humblest of All the Presidents, State Legislature, Albany, N. Y., February 18, 1861, ... 59

I Shall very soon Pass away from You, Columbus, O., February 13, 1861, ... 55

Liberty for All Future Time, Independence Hall, Philadelphia, February 22, 1861, ... 63

Majority of the American People Must Rule, Steubenville, O., February 14, 1861, ... 56

No One More Devoted to Peace, Assembly Chamber, Trenton, N. J., February 21, 1861, ... 62

Ohio Legislature, Address to, Columbus, February 13, 1861, ... 55

Preserve the Union and Liberty, Indianapolis, Ind., February 11, 1861, ... 53

People's Power Eternal, Lawrenceburg, Ind., February 12, 1861, ... 53

Response to an Address of Welcome, Cincinnati, February 12, 1861, ... 54

Response to an Address of Welcome, Cleveland, O., February 15, 1861, ... 58

Stand by the Union, Response to an Address of Welcome, New York, February 20, 1861, ... 60

PAGE

Struggle for Liberty, Address in the Senate Chamber, Trenton, N. J., February 21, 1861, ... 61
Tariff, A Just and Equitable, Pittsburg, Pa., February 15, 1861, ... 57
Will Carry the Ship of State through the Storm, With Help, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., February 19, 1861, . 60

Dispatches, Letters, etc., to Army Generals.

Buell, General Don Carlos, January 6, 1862, . . . 78
Burnside, General Ambrose E., Referring to General Grant, July 27, 1863, ... 113
Curtis, General Samuel R., January 2, 1863, . . . 97
Grant, General Ulysses S., Letter to, October 8, 1862, 87
Grant, General Ulysses S., Acknowledgment to, July 13, 1863, ... 110
Grant, General Ulysses S., Commissioned Lieutenant General, March 9, 1864, ... 125
Grant, General Ulysses S., Reply of, ... 126
Grant, General Ulysses S., Letter to, April 30, 1864, . 132
Grant, General Ulysses S., Dispatch to, June 15, 1864, 140
Grant, General Ulysses S., Dispatch to, August 17, 1864, 145
Hunter, General David, October 24, 1861, . . . 76
Halleck, General Henry W., October 16, 1863, . . 121
Hooker, General Joseph, 1863, ... 99
Hooker, General Joseph, May 7, 1863, ... 103
McClellan, General George B., April 9, 1862, . . 78
Rosecrans, General W. S., October 4, 1863, . . . 118
Scott, General Winfield, September 16, 1861, . . 75
Schofield, General John M., May 24, 1863, . . . 104
Schofield, General John M., June 22, 1863, . . . 105
Sickles, General D. E., 1863, ... 123
Sheridan, General P. H., October 22, 1864, . . 153
Sherman, General W. T., December 26, 1864, . . 165
Thomas, General Lorenzo, July 8, 1863, . . . 109
Wadsworth, General James S., 1864, ... 130

Messages to Congress.

Army and Navy, Continued Dependence upon, December 8, 1863, ... 124
Army and Navy, Providing Pay for, January 19, 1863, . 98

PAGE

Another and Not I Must Be their Instrument, Fourth Annual Message, December 6, 1864, ... 161
Inaugural Address, First, March 4, 1861, ... 68
Labor the Superior of Capital, December 3, 1861, . . 76
No Moral Right to Shrink, July 4, 1861, ... 75
Slavery in the District of Columbia, April 16, 1862, . . 79
Way is Plain, The, December 1, 1862, ... 89
With Malice toward None, with Charity for All, Second Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865, ... 168

POLITICAL SPEECHES, LETTERS, ETC.

Abraham Lincoln, I Am Humble, First Political Speech, Pottsville, Ill., 1832, ... 1
A House Divided against Itself Cannot Stand, Speech at Republican State Convention, Springfield, Ill., June 17, 1858, ... 21
Remarks in Defense of the Above Speech:
This Nation Cannot Live on Injustice, Springfield, June 17, 1858, ... 27
Would Leave It to the World Unerased, Reply to Dr. Long, ... 28
Wisest Thing I Ever Did, To a Party of Friends, . 28
Candidate for the Illinois Legislature, Letter to the *Journal*, Springfield, Ill., June 13, 1836, . . . 3
Disadvantages the Republicans Labor Under, Speech at Springfield, Ill., July 17, 1858, ... 26
Education the Most Important Subject to the People, Address, New Salem, Ill., March 9, 1832, . . 1
Eternal Fidelity to the Just Cause, Speech Made in the Harrison Campaign, 1840, ... 7
Electric Cord in the Declaration of Independence, The, Reply to Douglas, Chicago, Ill., July 10, 1858, . 23
Lincoln and Douglas Joint Debate:
Ottawa, Ill., August 21, 1858, ... 29
Freeport, Ill., August 27, 1858, ... 30
Jonesboro, Ill., September 15, 1858, ... 31
Charleston, Ill., September 18, 1858, ... 32
Galesburg, Ill., October 7, 1858, ... 33
Quincy, Ill., October 13, 1858, ... 33
Alton, Ill., October 15, 1858, ... 34

PAGE

RELIGIOUS BODIES, REPLIES TO.

Christian Commission, Reply to an Invitation from the, February 22, 1863, ... 102
Clergymen, Reply to a Company of, 1864, . . . 143
Duryea, Rev. J. T., Firm Belief in Providence, 1864, . 137
East Baltimore Methodist Conference, 1862, . . . 81
Illinois Clergyman, Reply to an, 1864, . . . 154
Lutheran General Synod, Committee from, May, 1862, 80
Lutheran General Synod, Committee from, August, 1864, 144
Methodist Conference, Reply to a Committee from the, May, 1864, ... 134
Presbyterians, General Assembly of, Reply to a Committee of Sixty-five, May, 1863, ... 103
Religious Denominations of Chicago, Reply to a Deputation from All, September 13, 1862, ... 83
Sunderland, Rev. Byron, and Friends, Remarks to, 1862, 94

SLAVERY AND FREEDOM, SPEECHES, ETC.

All Men are Created Equal, Speech at Chicago, Ill., December 10, 1856, ... 19
Dred Scott Decision, Speech on the, Springfield, Ill., June 26, 1857, ... 20
Faith that Right makes Might, Speech at Cooper Institute, New York, February 27, 1860, ... 42
Hopeless Peaceful Emancipation of the Slave, Letter, 1855, ... 18
Injustice of Slavery, The, Speech at Peoria, Ill., October 16, 1854, ... 14
Natural Right of the Negro, Speech at Columbus, O., September, 1859, ... 36
One Retrograde Institution in America, The, Reply to Douglas, Springfield, Ill., October 4, 1854, . . . 17
Protest in the Illinois Legislature, 1837, ... 4
Redemption of the African Race, Springfield, Ill., July 16, 1852, ... 13
Those Who Deny Freedom to Others, etc., Letter to Republicans of Boston, April, 1859, ... 36

SLAVES, EMANCIPATION OF, SPEECHES, ETC.

Emancipation, Gradual, Conference with Congressmen from Border Slave States, July 12, 1862, . . . 79

PAGE

Emancipation Proclamation, Reading the, to his Cabinet, September 22, 1862, ... 84
Emancipation Proclamation, Preliminary, Issued September 22, 1862, ... 86
Emancipation Proclamation, Issue of, January 1, 1863, 95
Emancipation Proclamation, Congratulating the President on Issuing the, ... 115
Emancipation Proclamation, Sketch of its History, . 100
Emancipation Proclamation, Congratulating the President on Issuing the, ... 115
Emancipation, Gradual, in Missouri, Reply to General Schofield, June 22, 1863, ... 105
His Vow before God, Remarks to Secretary Chase, . . 98
Not One Word of It Will I ever Recall, Remarks to some Friends, New Year's Evening, 1863, ... 97

MISCELLANEOUS, SPEECHES, LETTERS, ETC.

Abraham Lincoln, Autobiography of, December, 1859, . 39
Abraham Lincoln, Last Public Address of, April 11, 1865, 178
Abraham Lincoln, Last Letters Written, One of the, April 14, 1865, ... 179
Abraham Lincoln, Last Written Words of, April 14, 1865, 181
Abraham Lincoln, Last Verbal Message, April 14, 1865, 179
American Citizens are Brothers, All, Springfield, Ill., November 20, 1860, ... 49
Already too many Weeping Widows, Reply to an Army General, ... 128
Advice to an Officer who had been Court-martialed, . . 134
A Presentiment, Remarks to Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, 1864, ... 136
Anything to Strengthen and Sustain General Grant, June, 1864, ... 138
All Animated by the same Determination, December 22, 1864, ... 163
Anxious to Aid the Good Cause, December, 1864, . . 164
Campaign Clubs before the White House, Speech to, November 10, 1864, ... 156
Care and Anxiety of the President, Remarks made in December, 1864, ... 165
Captured Flag, Presentation of a, Remarks at the Gathering, March 17, 1865, ... 172

PAGE
Colored Soldier, Praise for the, 1864, ... 130
Consecrated Himself to Christ, Reply to an Illinois Clergyman, 1864, ... 154
Defends the Secretary of War, August 6, 1862, . . 82
Dispensing Patronage, Letter to the Postmaster General, July 27, 1863, ... 112
"Dixie," our Lawful Prize, Speech to a Gathering before the White House, April 10, 1865, ... 177
"Early History," Mr. Lincoln's, Reply to One who Asked for a Sketch of his Life, ... 51
Father, Message to his Dying, Letter to his Brother-in-law, 1851, ... 12
Farewell Address to his Neighbors, just before Leaving for Washington, February 11, 1861, ... 51
Fernando Wood, Hon., of New York, Letter to, December 12, 1862, ... 92
Gratitude to God, Proclamation, July 4, 1863, . . 107
Gettysburg, Battlefield of, Address on, November 19, 1863, 121
Gettysburg, Acknowledgment of Flowers from the Battlefield of, January 24, 1865, ... 167
Gettysburg, Asked God for Victory at, 1863, . . . 123
God Alone Can Claim It, Letter to A. G. Hodges, April 4, 1864, ... 128
Going Through on this Line if It Takes Three Years More, Speech at a Philadelphia Fair, June 18, 1864, 141
Greatest Credit Due the Common Soldier, Speech to the 189th N. Y. Infantry, October 24, 1864, . . . 154
God will Control the Hearts of the People, Reply to Friends, ... 164
Gratitude, Letter of, To a Voter 104 Years of Age, November, 1864, ... 158
Grief-stricken Mother, Letter to a, November 21, 1864, 159
Hawaiian Islands, Interest in, Address to Minister Allen, April 11, 1864, ... 129
Illinois Republican State Convention, Declines an Invitation to Attend, August 26, 1863, ... 113
Indebted to the Christian People, Letter to Mrs. Eliza P. Gurney, September 30, 1864, ... 148
Jefferson, All Honor to, Reply to an Invitation, April 6, 1861, ... 74

PAGE

Last Visit to his Law Office before Leaving for Washington, 1861, ... 51
Letter to Thomas H. Clay of Cincinnati, October 8, 1862, ... 87
Last Letters Written, One of the, April 14, 1865, . . 179
Last Verbal Message, April 14, 1865, ... 179
Modesty of Mr. Lincoln, Shown in a Speech at the State Fair, Springfield, Ill, August 8, 1860, ... 47
Malice, Will Do Nothing in, Letter, July 28, 1862, . 81
Missouri, Affairs in, Letter to Hon. Charles D. Drake, October 5, 1863, ... 119
Mother's Prayers, His, Conversation with a Friend, . 121
Maryland's Proposed New Constitution, Regarding, October 18, 1864, ... 151
Maryland Abolishes Slavery, Response to a Serenading Party in Honor of, October 19, 1864, . . . 152
Nomination for the Presidency, Would not Buy the, 1860, 45
Nomination for the Presidency, First News of his, May 8, 1860, ... 46
Nomination for the Presidency, Formal Announcement of his, May 19, 1860, ... 46
Nomination for the Presidency, Second, 1864, . . 139
Nomination for the Presidency, Acceptance of the, June 27, 1864, ... 142
National Thanksgiving, A Day for, Proclamation, July 15, 1863, ... 110
National Union League, Response to Remarks by a Delegation of the, June 9, 1864, ... 139
No Cessation of Hostilities Short of the End of the War, Instructions to William H. Seward, January, 1865, . 171
Negroes Kneel at the President's Feet, Richmond, April 4, 1865, ... 173
Negroes in the Streets of Richmond, Remarks to, April 4, 1865, ... 174
Not Scared about Himself at all, Reply to Schuyler Colfax, 1865, ... 176
Opponents, Kindly Feelings for, Speech at Cincinnati, O., September, 1859, ... 37
Observance of the Sabbath in the Army and Navy, General Orders, November 15, 1862, ... 88

PAGE

Opening of a Fair, Speech at an, Baltimore, Md., April 18, 1864, ... 130
Only Mortal after all, Remarks to a Friend, . . . 158
Our People Can Afford to be Magnanimous, Interview, December, 1864, ... 160
Perpetuation of our Free Institutions, Address at Springfield, Ill., January, 1837, ... 5
Pledge with Cold Water, The, May, 1860, . . . 47
People Will Do Well if Well Done by, The, Speech at Bloomington, Ill., November 21, 1860, . . . 50
Peculiar Position at the Capital, His, Address to the Republican Association, February 28, 1861, . . . 67
Paramount Object to Save the Union, Reply to a Complaining Editorial by Horace Greeley, August 19, 1862, 83
Protest from Erastus Corning and Others, Reply to a, June 13, 1863, ... 105
Pardon for a Deserter, Remarks to Schuyler Colfax, 1863, 115
Plea for the Colored People, Letter to Governor-Elect of Louisiana, January 11, 1864, ... 124
Pardon for a Sleeping Sentry, Remarks to a Friend, . 127
Plea for the Life of a Soldier, Reply to a, . . . 128
Proclamation of Thanksgiving and Prayer, May 9, 1864, 135
Pardon, Answer to an Application for, 1864, . . . 146
Peace Negotiations, Regarding, To Confederate Commissioners, July 18, 1864, ... 143
Presentation of a Bible by Colored People, October, 1864, 150
Princeton College Confers a Degree of LL. D., December 27, 1864, ... 166
Preserving the Peace of Maryland, Message to Governor Hicks, April 20, 1861, ... 74
Refusal to Pardon a Man for Importing Slaves, 1863, . 116
Restoring the Union the Sole Purpose of the War, 1864, 133
Ratifying the Election, Speech at a Meeting in Front of the White House, November 20, 1864, . . . 159
Remarks to his Wife on the Fatal Day, April 14, 1865, 181
Settlement with an Agent of the Post Office Department, 1859, ... 39
Sees the Storm Coming, A Quiet Talk at Springfield, Ill., During the Campaign of 1860, ... 49
Story-telling was a Relief, Remarks to a Congressman, 1864, 137

PAGE
Seeks Relaxation at the Theater, Remarks to Schuyler Colfax, 1864, ... 145
Stand Fast to the Union and the Flag, Speech to the 148th Ohio Infantry, 1864, ... 146
Serenade at the White House, Response to a, July 7, 1863, 107
Serenade at the White House, Response to a, May 13, 1864, ... 136
Serenade on the Night of the Election, Response to a, November 9, 1864, ... 155
Serenaders, Reply to a Party of, April 10, 1865, . . 176
Soldiers of the Nation, Will Favor, 1864, . . . 166
Second Annual Message, Regarding his, Letter to Thurlow Weed, March 15, 1865, ... 171
Shakes Hands with over Six Thousand Soldiers, April 8, 1865, ... 175
Temperance Cause, Address at Springfield, Ill., February 22, 1842, ... 8
Tariff, Protective, Letter Regarding, October 11, 1859, 42
Tenders the Thanks of the Nation, Address to the Army of the Potomac, December 22, 1862, ... 93
Thanksgiving Day Proclamation, Issued October 3, 1863, 116
Times are Dark, The, Remarks to Rev. Byron Sunderland, December, 1862, ... 94
Visits Grant's Headquarters at City Point, . . . 173
Visits Richmond on the Day of the Surrender of that City, 1865, ... 173
We Shall Try to Do Our Duty, Speech at Leavenworth, Kans., 1860, ... 45
Will Carry Out the Work Commenced, Speech to the 164th Ohio Infantry, September, 1864, ... 147
Willing to Act though it Costs his Life, Reply to a Friend, August 6, 1862, ... 82
Women of America, God Bless the, Speech at a Ladies' Fair, Washington, March 16, 1864, ... 126
Workingmen of Manchester, England, Reply to an Address from the, January 19, 1863, ... 99
Would Willingly Exchange Places with the Soldier, Remarks to Schuyler Colfax, 1864, ... 137

INDEX TO TRIBUTES.

A Choice Selection of Eloquent Sayings Gathered from Distinguished People.

PAGE

Anderson, Rasmus B., Author, ... 193
Abbott, Lyman, Author and Divine, ... 148
Arthur, Timothy S., Author, ... 162
Ayers, Romeyn B., Major General, U. S. A., . . . 194
Atwood, Edward S., Clergyman, ... 61
Andrew, John A., ex-Governor of Massachusetts, . . 10
Armitage, Thomas, Clergyman, ... 190
Adams, William, Clergyman, ... 6

Bascom, John, Educator, ... 194
Black, John C., Brevet Brigadier General, U. S. A., . . 179
Burk, Thomas, English Politician, ... 193
Blaine, James Gillespie, Statesman, ... 188
Bright, John, English Statesman, ... 195
Boutwell, George S., ex-Governor of Massachusetts, . . 195
Bates, Edward, Lincoln's Attorney General, ... 191
Bellows, Henry W., Clergyman, ... 194
Bullock, Alex. H., ex-Governor of Massachusetts, . . 190
Bradley, Joseph P., American Jurist, ... 196
Buckingham, William A , ex-Governor of Connecticut, . . 87
Bradley, William O., Lawyer, ... 63
Bateman, Newton, Educator, ... 29
Badger, Henry E., Clergyman, ... 90
Brooks, Phillips, Clergyman, ... 85
Barrows, John H., Clergyman, ... 103
Bennett, Emerson, Journalist, ... 193
Blanchard, Rufus, Author, ... 110
Barnum, Phineas T., Showman, ... 99

PAGE

Bailey, James M., Journalist, ... 64
Breece, Sidney, Lawyer, ... 79
Bacon, Leonard, Clergyman, ... 69
Banks, Nathaniel P., Major General, U. S. A., . . . 192
Bryant, William Cullen, Poet, ... 151
Benjamin, Samuel G. W., Author, ... 127
Bascom, A. B., Clergyman, ... 111
Butler, Henry E., Clergyman, ... 2
Buckley, Edwin A., Clergyman, ... 80
Blackburn, William M., Clergyman, ... 199
Binney, William, Lawyer, ... 132
Bradford, B. F., Clergyman, ... 70
Bingham, J. C., Clergyman, ... 12
Buddington, William Ives, Clergyman, ... 198
Butler, Clement M., Clergyman, ... 139
Burdick, C. F., Clergyman, ... 115
Baldridge, S. C., Clergyman, ... 48
Backman, Charles, Clergyman, ... 156
Booth, Robert R., Clergyman, ... 141
Burnam, C. F., Lawyer, ... 191
Burnside, Ambrose E., Major General, U. S. A., . . . 49
Beveridge, J. L., ex-Governor of Illinois, ... 182
Bancroft, George, Historian, ... 184
Beecher, Henry Ward, Clergyman, ... 183
Briggs, George W., Clergyman, ... 184
Butler, Benjamin F., Major General, U. S. A., . . . 189

Crosby, Howard, Clergyman, ... 189
Conkling, Roscoe, Statesman, ... 189
Collier, Robert, Clergyman, ... 194
Clark, James Freeman, Clergyman, ... 190
Cooper, Peter, Philanthropist, ... 189
Coxe, A. Cleveland, Episcopal Bishop, ... 191
Cox, Samuel S., Author and Statesman, ... 65
Colfax, Schuyler, Vice President, ... 185
Coffen, Titian J., Assistant Attorney General, . . . 192
Cass, Lewis, Statesman, ... 143
Craig, Wheelock, Clergyman, ... 178
Chase, Thomas, Educator, ... 28
Carnahan, D. T., Clergyman, ... 197

PAGE

Crozier, Hiram P., Clergyman, ... 197
Carey, Isaac E., Clergyman, ... 197
Cooper, James, Clergyman, ... 197
Chester, John, Clergyman, ... 181
Chaney, George L., Clergyman, ... 134
Cudworth, Warren H., Clergyman, ... 186
Cuyler, Theo. L., Clergyman, ... 107
Carpenter, Francis B., Author, ... 159
Cary, Phœbe, Poet, ... 161
Cary, Alice, Poet, ... 77
Cameron, Mrs. R. A., Poet, ... 95
Chadwick, John W., Clergyman, ... 120
Carruthers, J. J., Clergyman, ... 149
Coddington, David C., ... 200

Davis, David, Jurist, ... 176
Day, P. B., Clergyman, ... 192
Dening, Henry Champion, Lawyer, ... 189
Dana, Charles A., Journalist, ... 195
Depew, Chauncey M., Lawyer, ... 133
Dow, Neal, Temperance Reformer, ... 199
Drake, Samuel Adams, Author, ... 189
Douglass, Frederick, Orator, ... 191
Dix, Morgan, Clergyman, ... 188
Drummond, Thomas, American Jurist, ... 190
Dunning, H., Clergyman, ... 196
Darling, Henry, Clergyman, ... 56
Dean, Sidney, Clergyman, ... 21
Dailey, J. P., Clergyman, ... 199
Duane, Richard B., Clergyman, ... 102
Dyer, David, Clergyman, ... 197
Disraeli, Benjamin, British Statesman, ... 188
D'Aubigné, Merle, Swiss Author, ... 165

Edison, Thomas Alva, Inventor, ... 83
Emerson, Ralph Waldo, Author, ... 168
Eddy, Richard, Clergyman, ... 125
Eddy, T. M., Clergyman, ... 199
Edgar, Cornelius Henry, Clergyman, ... 199

PAGE

Ellis, Charles Mayo, Lawyer, ... 17
Eddy, Daniel Clark, Clergyman, ... 15
Everett, Charles Carroll, Theologian, ... 197

Fulton, Justin Dewey, Clergyman, ... 188
Fisher, George Park, Theologian, ... 190
Fisk, Clinton Bowen, Brevet Major General, U. S. A., . . 193
Franklin, William Buel, Major General, U. S. A., . . 191
Fee, John G., Educator, ... 201
Foote, Henry Wilder, Clergyman, ... 190
Forney, John W., Journalist, ... 124
Frieze, Henry Simmons, Educator, ... 54
Frothingham, Octavius B., Author and Divine, . . . 75
Frye, William P., United States Senator, ... 92
Frelinghuysen, Frederick T., ex-United States Senator, . 188
Fowler, Charles Henry, Clergyman, ... 199
Fowler, Henry, Clergyman, ... 158
Field, Richard Stockton, ex-United States Senator, . . 140
Farquhar, John, Clergyman, ... 171
Fox, Henry, Clergyman, ... 106

Gough, John B., Temperance Lecturer, ... 128
Gunsaulus, F. W., Clergyman, ... 195
Godwin, Parke, Journalist, ... 27
Gear, D. L., Clergyman, ... 43
Garland, Augustus H., ex-United States Senator, . . . 30
Grant, Ulysses S., President and General, ... 184
Gurley, Phineas Densmore, Clergyman, ... 187
Gordon, William Robert, Clergyman, ... 68
Garrison, Joseph Fithian, Clergyman, ... 200
Gaddis, M. P., Clergyman, ... 163
Grow, Galusha Aaron, Statesman, ... 135
Gray, Asa, Botanist, ... 55
Grey, Sir George, English Statesman, ... 123

Haven, Gilbert, Methodist Bishop, ... 194
Howells, William Dean, Author, ... 194
Hatch, Rufus, Banker, ... 153
Holland, Josiah Gilbert, Author, ... 196
Hague, William, Clergyman, ... 193

PAGE
Hepworth, George H., Clergyman, ... 191
Hubbard, Gurdon S., Trader, ... 191
Hall, Newman, English Clergyman, ... 193
Hart, Charles Henry, Author, ... 196
Hancock, Winfield S., Major General, U. S. A., . . . 9
Hammond, Charles, Clergyman, ... 46
Hastings, Hugh J., Journalist, ... 34
Hathaway, Warren, Clergyman, ... 82
Hewitt, Abram S., Statesman, ... 89
Holmes, Oliver Wendell, Author, ... 188
Higginson, Thomas Wentworth, Author, ... 67
Haven, Erastus Otis, Methodist Bishop, ... 47
Harrington, C. S., Educator, ... 185
Hamlin, Hannibal, ex-Vice President U. S., ... 190
Hugo, Victor, Poet and Novelist, ... 193
Hayden, Mrs. Caroline A., Poet, ... 146
Hall, Gordon, Clergyman, ... 198
Hornblower, W. H., Clergyman, ... 197
Hardinge, Miss Emma, Poet, ... 131
Hunt, Albert S., Clergyman, ... 74
Hooper, Mrs. Lucy Hamilton, Poet, ... 160
Halpine, Charles Graham, Journalist and Poet, . . . 112
Hosmer, W. H. C., Poet, ... 94
Hawley, Joseph R., Brevet Brigadier General, U. S. A., . 96
Hurlbut, Stephen A., Major General, U. S. A., . . . 188
Hayes, Rutherford B., ex-President, U. S., ... 186
Hale, Eugene, United States Senator, ... 136
Hartzell, J. Hazard, Clergyman, ... 201

Ingersoll, Robert G., Orator, ... 195
Ingalls, John James, Statesman, ... 7
Irvin, William, Clergyman, ... 31

Johnson, Herrick, Clergyman, ... 33
Julian, George W., Congressman, ... 194
Janeway, J. L., Clergyman, ... 81
Jeffery, R. Clergyman, ... 180

Kirkwood, Samuel J., ex-Governor of Iowa, ... 188
Kelley, William D., Congressman, ... 192

PAGE
Keeling, R. J., Clergyman, ... 25
Krebs, Hugo, Clergyman, ... 71
Kimball, Harriet McEwen, Poet, ... 113

La Matyr, G. De, Congressman, ... 189
Leland, Charles Godfrey, Author, ... 189
Lanman, Charles, Author, ... 193
Lord, Rev. Dr., ... 198
Ludlow, James M., Clergyman, ... 19
Lowe, Charles, Clergyman, ... 41
Love, William De Loss, Clergyman, ... 3
Lothrop, Samuel Kirkland, Clergyman, ... 155
Littlejohn, Abram Newkirk, Episcopal Bishop, . . . 145
Lowry, Robert, Clergyman, ... 200
Lowe, Martha Perry, Poet, ... 52
Lowell, James Russell, Poet, ... 150
Laboulaye, Edouard, French Jurist and Author, . . 144

Maynard, Horace, Statesman, ... 191
Minier, George W., Merchant, ... 195
Manning, J. M., Clergyman, ... 193
Morton, Levi P., ex-Vice President, U. S., . . . 51
Murdoch, James Edwin, Actor, ... 194
Miller, Samuel F., American Jurist, ... 199
Meigs, Montgomery C., Major General, U. S. A., . . 195
McIlvaine, Charles P., Episcopal Bishop, ... 195
Marvin, James, Educator, ... 193
Matthews, Stanley, Jurist, ... 66
McLellan, Isaac, Poet, ... 22
Morey, William C., Educator, ... 190
McCullough, Hugh, Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury, . 72
McClintock, John, Educator, ... 193
McClure, A. K., Journalist, ... 203
Morgan, William F., Clergyman, ... 192
Merritt, Wesley, Major General, U. S. A., ... 116
Mill, John Stuart, Author, ... 194
Mayo, A. D., Clergyman, ... 40
Morais, S., Clergyman, ... 26
McCauley, James A., Clergyman, ... 18
Morehouse, H. L., Clergyman, ... 167

PAGE
Murray, William H. H., Clergyman, ... 154
Miner, A. A., Clergyman, ... 142
Martin, Henri Louis Bon, French Historian, ... 109

Nichols, Samuel J., Clergyman, ... 192
Nason, Elias, Clergyman, ... 192
Newton, Wm. Wilberforce, Clergyman, ... 191
New, John C., Financier, ... 189
Northrop, Cyrus, Educator, ... 23
Niles, H. E., Clergyman, ... 200
Nelson, Henry Addison, Clergyman, ... 177
Noble, Mason, Captain, U. S. Navy, ... 200
Neale, Rollin Heber, Clergyman, ... 196

Porter, Noah, Clergyman, ... 194
Porter, David D., Admiral, U. S. N., ... 88
Phillips, Wendell, Orator, ... 20
Pike, Albert, Lawyer, ... 53
Patterson, James Willis, ex-United States Senator, . . . 73
Porter, Robert P., Journalist, ... 188
Pratt, Calvin E., Brigadier General, U. S. A., ... 93
Palmer, Ray, Author and Clergyman, ... 98
Poore, Ben. Perley, Journalist, ... 118
Paddock, Wilbur F., Clergyman, ... 97
Purinton, J. M., Clergyman, ... 114
Putnam, George, Clergyman, ... 197
Patterson, Adoniram J., Clergyman, ... 5
Patton, Alfred Spencer, Clergyman, ... 121
Proctor, Edna Dean, Poet, ... 175
Prime, S. Irenæus, Journalist, ... 45
Payne, C. A., Educator, ... 8

Quint, Alonzo Hall, Clergyman, ... 198

Rector, H. M., ex-Governor of Arkansas, ... 100
Rice, Alexander H., ex-Governor of Massachusetts, . . . 189
Ramsey, Alexander, Hayes' Secretary of War, ... 193
Rankin, Jeremiah E., Clergyman, ... 173
Robinson, T. H., Clergyman, ... 4
Rice, Nathan Lewis, Clergyman, ... 13
Russell, Peter, Clergyman, ... 196

PAGE
Robinson, Charles Seymour, Clergyman, ... 198
Reed, S., Clergyman, ... 199
Russell, Lord John, English Statesman, ... 122

Stone, Andrew Leete, Clergyman, ... 192
Swing, David, Clergyman, ... 194
Simpson, Matthew, Methodist Bishop, ... 183
Smyth, Frederick, ex-Governor of New Hampshire, . . 195
Sherman, William T., Lieutenant General, U. S. A., . . 191
Strong, William, American Jurist, ... 192
Smith, William F., Major General, U. S. A., . . . 190
Stoneman, George, Major General, U. S A., . . . 86
Spinner, Francis E., Secretary of the Treasury, . . . 58
Swisshelm, Jane Grey, Authoress, ... 78
Smith, Richard, Journalist, ... 76
Smith, Goldwin, English Author, ... 84
Storrs, Richard S., Clergyman, ... 91
Speed, Joshua F., Merchant, ... 193
Shuman, Andrew, Journalist, ... 59
Stephens, Alex. H., Statesman, ... 192
Swett, Leonard, Lawyer, ... 196
Smith, Gerrit, Philanthropist, ... 190
Sweetser, Seth, Clergyman, ... 185
Stanton, Edwin M., Lincoln's Secretary of War, . . . 60
Stoddard, Richard Henry, Poet, ... 185
Stedman, Edmund Clarence, Poet, ... 147
Street, Alfred B., Poet, ... 172
Steiner, Lewis H., Physician, ... 117
Sedgwick, Charles B., Congressman, ... 196
Steele, Richard H., Clergyman, ... 39
Searing, Edward, Clergyman, ... 36
Strong, J. D., Clergyman, ... 166
Snively, William A., Clergyman, ... 152
Smith, Henry, Clergyman, ... 35
Slater, Edward C., Clergyman, ... 24
Seiss, Joseph A., Theologian, ... 11
Sabine, Wm. T., Clergyman, ... 196
Spear, Samuel Thayer, Clergyman, ... 170
Swaim, Thomas, Clergyman, ... 198
Speed, James, Lincoln's Attorney General, . . . 62

PAGE
Sumner, Charles, Statesman, ... 187
Schurz, Carl, Statesman, ... 129
Silva, Sr. Rebello da, Portuguese Statesman, . . . 186

Townsend, Edward Davis, Major General, U. S. A., . 108
Tyng, Stephen H., Clergyman, ... 169
Taylor, Archibald A. E., Educator, ... 192
Trowbridge, John Townsend, Author, ... 38
Todd, John E., Clergyman, ... 119
Tapley, Rufus P., Lawyer, ... 44
Thrall, S. C., Clergyman, ... 137
Thompson, John C., Clergyman, ... 16
Tucker, Joshua Thomas, Clergyman, ... 101
Thomas, A. G., Clergyman, ... 188
Thompson, Joseph Parrish, Clergyman, ... 14
Taylor, Benjamin F., Author, ... 57

Usher, John Palmer, Lincoln's Secretary of the Interior, . 194

Volk, Leonard Wells, Sculptor, ... 195
Vincent, Marvin Richardson, Clergyman, ... 138

Warner, Willard, ex-United States Senator, ... 174
Wilson, Henry, ex-Vice President, ... 194
Williams, S. Wells, Author, ... 195
Webb, Edwin B., Clergyman, ... 193
Walden, Treadwell, Clergyman, ... 32
Warner, Charles Dudley, Author, ... 42
Winthrop, Robert Charles, Statesman, ... 194
Whitney, Henry C., Author, ... 198
Wilson, William T., Clergyman, ... 164
Wallace, Charles C., Clergyman, ... 200
White, Erskine N., Clergyman, ... 50
Williams, Robert H., Clergyman, ... 37
Wortman, Denis, Clergyman, ... 104
Woodburn, Augustus, Clergyman, ... 200
Westall, John, Poet, ... 126
Williams, William R., Clergyman, ... 198
Watterson, Henry, Journalist, ... 157

Yourtee, S. L., Clergyman, ... 130

SHOOK HANDS WITH LINCOLN.

St. Petersburg, Fla., Dec. 25—(AP)—Colonel Maximilian Brueckman is 91 but the time he shook hands with Abraham Lincoln is fresh in his memory. It was in 1864, in Philadelphia. -1935-

Lincoln Car Burns

The Lincoln funeral car, the car which in April, 1865, carried the body of Abraham Lincoln from Washington to its final resting place in Springfield, Ill., is a mass of charred wood and iron. The car, which has been visited by hundreds of thousands of Americans, was destroyed by a prairie fire which swept through ten blocks in Columbia Heights. The car was purchased by Thomas Lowry in 1905, and brought to Minneapolis. It was used as the private car of Lincoln and his cabinet during the last three years of the civil war.

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